WOLVERHAMPTON
CHRONICLE

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FESTIVE FUN

Enjoy supplement on Christmas in city

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DAN DARES

I'm fit for Forest, says on-loan striker

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DISGUST OVER NURSERY RAID

THIEVES tore through a nursery school in Wolverhampton, stealing £900 raised by pupils for Children in Need.

Eastfield Nursery School was forced to close after its front door was ripped off, phone lines cut, windows smashed and a safe stolen. Its alarm sensors were also destroyed and filing cabinets and cupboards torn apart.

By Tim Spiers

Thousands of pounds worth of damage was caused when the school in Griffin Street off Willenhall Road, was broken in to over the weekend and it is believed the culprits returned several times over the 48-hour period. It was due to reopen yesterday.

Headteacher Emma Smith said: "We're devastated. The staff are in a state of shock and parents are appalled and angry.

Disruption

"This is a real community school and it's hit everyone hard. Not only has it caused disruption to the children's education, but it's a huge inconvenience with everything that needs sorting out.

"The children and their families worked so hard last week collecting for Children in Need and now all of that is gone."

As well as the charity money, five new iPads the pupils haven't even used yet were also taken. To raise money for Children in Need, youngsters sold wristbands, held a raffle, had a dress-up day and brought in sponsor money from their families.

Police are now examining CCTV which shows a group of three people striking on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights.

West Midlands Police spokeswoman Catherine Hickman said: "It is believed the offenders returned to the site several times over the weekend, during which several items were stolen including cash and charity collection money.

"A door had been smashed and offenders had caused significant damage to the premises."

Ms Smith said she had no choice but to close the school for a second day to the 150 pupils, who are aged up to three.

"They've gone so far as cutting the manhole cover outside, lifting that up and cutting cables. They obviously thought it would be the alarm line."

Anyone with information can call the police on 101.

Administrator Phyllis James said: ""It's absolutely disgusting what they've done - it's just horrible. The only saving grace is that the classrooms the children use haven't been touched. But the most disgusting thing is them stealing the Children in Need money."

Councillor Phil Page, cabinet member for schools, added: "The thefts and damage over the weekend are despicable acts which have distressed teachers and pupils. Vital and valuable teaching equipment has been stolen as well as hard earned charity money."

Headteacher Emma Smith with two-year-old Shaniah Francis and a broken cash tin after the break in

Benefits worker in £32k swindle

A BENEFITS assessor has admitted swindling £32,000 from the council he worked at.

Anthony McHale committed the sophisticated fraud over two years at Wolverhampton City Council.

The 55-year-old pleaded guilty at Wolverhampton Magistrates Court to fraud by abusing his position between September 2012 and September this year.

McHale, of Broad Lane North in Willenhall, was suspended from his position by council bosses when the offence was discovered. Following the case, the council acknowledged the guilty plea and said it took a zero tolerance approach to such crimes.

Loss

Mr Roger Bleazard, prosecuting, told the court that McHale had carried out the fraud with 'some sophistication' and had committed a 'severe breach of trust.'

He admitted six charges of fraud by abuse of position, in that he dishonestly abused his position and intended to cause loss to the city council. The fraud amounted to £32,000.

He was granted unconditional bail after pleading guilty. He will be sentenced at Birmingham Crown Court on December 12.

Prisons' drive for officers

THE Midlands' worst prisons are on a recruiting drive with five jails across the region advertising.

Brinsford, Featherstone, Stafford, Drake Hall and Swinfen Hall, are looking for prison officers after it was revealed that staffing levels have plummeted.

It comes after it was revealed that there are 700 fewer officers staffing the West Midlands' jails, with the Howard League for Penal Reform warning that the prison system is in crisis.Brinsford

Police station hours to be slashed

FRONT desks at four police stations in Wolverhampton will close or have their opening hours slashed under £3 million cuts.

Inquiry desks at Wednesfield and Bilston will be completely closed and the 24-hour service at the city's main Bilston Street station will be reduced to 8am-10pm.

Low Hill, meanwhile, will remain manned by volunteers between Monday and Thursday from 9.30am until 12pm. The main desk at Willenhall is also to be shut completely.

In total, West Midlands Police will close 27 front offices, with more than 90 of the 170 jobs at risk.

Police chiefs say it follows an independent review that shows the majority of the public no longer visit stations and instead make phone calls, use the internet and social media to contact officers.

Monitored

More than 7,000 people were interviewed and visitor numbers to front offices were monitored as part of the review. It found fewer than one in 10 had been to one in the previous 12 months.

But Wednesfield councillor and former Wolverhampton mayor, Milkinder Jaspal described the move as 'suicidal' by the police. He said: "One of the biggest concerns I hear from residents is how they can't get hold of the police. By shutting the front desk this just closes another avenue for residents and it is a huge blow for those in Wolverhampton.

"It is a suicidal decision that will destroy confidence in the community. I fear more people will be looking to take things into their own hands.

"We had a serious incident in Wednesfield a few weeks ago and for days residents had been trying to contact police but no one came out.

"This will only make matters worse," he added.

Schools to expand despite opposition

A £15 MILLION scheme to expand primary schools has been given the go ahead-despite more than half of people consulted on the plans opposing them.

Mobile classrooms, extensions to schools and more child places are all part of the project given the green light by Wolverhampton City Council.

But one councillor has vowed to fight the decision after almost 60 per cent of parents, teachers, governors consulted opposed the idea. Among the concerns raised is a lack of room at schools and parking problems.

Added

A spike in the number of school pupils in 2015 and 2016 is behind the temporary expansion of five schools – Bushbury Hill, Loxdale, St Martin's CofE, Stowlawn and West Park primary schools – by 270 pupils in total.

Bilston CofE, Eastfield and Manor Primary and Westacre Infant School will also be permanently expanded, with 465 places and new buildings. And one more school is due to be added to the list.

The city council's education chief Councillor Phil Page said: "The authority has a huge responsibility to provide sufficient places."

Views call on super council

BUSINESS are being urged to give their views over moves for the Black Country and Birmingham to join forces to gain more powers and funding.

Walsall Council leader Sean Coughlan said organisations in the education sector need to have their say.

The town. with Wolverhampton, Sandwell and Dudley is teaming up with Birmingham to form a super council on major issues but they would continue independently.

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CONTACT US

Have you got a story or an event you want covered? The Chronicle and Express & Star have a team of reporters who can help:

Catherine Dalton: 01902 319429
catherine.dalton@expressandstar.co.uk
Tim Spiers: 01902 319363
tim.spiers@expressandstar.co.uk
John Scott: 01902 319421
john.scott@expressandstar.co.uk
Mark Andrews: 01922 319472
mark.andrews@expressandstar.co.uk
Adam Thompson: 01902 319426
adam.thompson@expressandstar.co.uk
Peter Madeley: 01902 319445
Peter.Madeley@expressandstar.co.uk
Jon Pritchard: 01922 319299
jon.pritchard@expressandstar.co.uk

You can also e-mail any stories and pictures to:
wolverhampton.chronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

Sports:
Tel: 01902 319453. e-mail: chronsport@expressandstar.co.uk

Photographic:
Tel: John Sambrooks 01902 319431

Advertising:
Sue Tolley
Tel: 01902 3196420
E-mail: sue.tolley@expressandstar.co.uk

Property:
John Darby
Tel: 01902 319627
E-mail: property@expressandstar.co.uk

Motoring:
Phil Morris
Tel: 01902 319177
E-mail: p.morris@expressandstar.co.uk

Classified:
Tel: 01902 317878
E-mail: my-classified@expressandstar.co.uk

Distribution:
Paul Jones
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E-mail: p.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

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Strike threat at new Jaguar plant

JAGUAR Land Rover could find itself facing strike action – just weeks after its flagship £500 million engine factory in Wolverhampton was opened by The Queen.

Thousands of workers, members of the Unite union, have rejected a pay offer worth 14 per cent over three years because they say it fails to recognise their role in making the company a global success.

It comes as the company revealed a drop in its recent profits figures and a fall in its sales in October.

Roger Maddison, national officer at the Unite union, warned: "JLR needs to get back around the negotiating table and hammer out a deal that meets the workforce's expectations and shares the rewards of the company's success fairly. Otherwise we will be looking to ballot our members for industrial action across the company's five sites."

An overwhelming 96 per cent of the 14,000 Unite union members across all the company's sites – including the engine factory at Wolverhampton – voted to reject JLR's latest pay offer and proposed pension changes.

In a brief statement following the ballot, a company spokesman said: "Jaguar Land Rover is very disappointed that the trade unions have voted to reject its pay and conditions offer. We remain committed to reaching a negotiated settlement."

Meanwhile new figures released by JLR revealed pre-tax profits slipped by £59m, to £609m, for the three months to the end of September, although sales boosted its revenue figure by £196m to £4.8 billion.

Debts warning over shake-up in benefits

SWEEPING changes to benefits will mean thousands of council house tenants fall into debt, it has been revealed.

An organisation in charge of council housing is having to warn people that they face being evicted unless they keep on top of their money as a new system sees them paid the cash into their bank accounts instead of their benefits going to the landlords.

Wolverhampton Homes expects that Universal Credit will eventually affect around 8,500 of tenants in its 23,000 homes.

There were half a million working age people on benefits in February this year in the West Midlands.

There were 32,235 in Wolverhampton, 30,885 in Walsall, 38,595 in Sandwell and 30,125 in Dudley as well as 8,810 in Cannock Chase, 8,160 in Wyre Forest, 7,780 in Stafford, 6,265 in South Staffordshire in 6,055 in Lichfield.

Risk

The new benefit will next year replace jobseeker's allowance, housing benefit and other welfare payments for people who are out of work or on low incomes in favour of one single benefit.

It will begin to be rolled out in the West Midlands from February, initially only to new claimants of working age. That means anyone on benefit at the time it is introduced will not be affected but anyone who loses their job or has to begin claiming welfare for another reason will be on it.

Wolverhampton Homes is warning of a risk of people falling behind with their payments as they will be responsible for using their benefits to pay the landlord, rather than the money being transferred directly to the housing provider.

Mark Henderson, director of housing, said: "There's a risk of temptation."

Beauty of a way to aid city charity

BLACK Country businesswomen will be raising funds to give children a better Christmas during a charity event next month.

WV Inspired, a network for aspirational women in Wolverhampton, aims to support The Haven Wolverhampton's Christmas Gift Appeal at the free event on December 3 at the WV1 Bar & Restaurant at the Molineux Stadium.

The evening will feature more than 30 exhibitors including hair, beauty, professional services and luxury gifts along with a range of therapists offering taster pamper sessions including massage, facials, reflexology and Reiki.

There will be a talk from experienced Style Your Soul image consultant Sue Horne and motivator Liz Keaney will speak about 'How to be a Warrior Women'.

The event, which will run from 5pm to 8.30pm, will also include a charity raffle and silent auction.

Organiser Charlotte Clode, associate solicitor at FBC Manby Bowdler, said: "The Haven Christmas Gift Appeal 2014 is a great cause."Book in advance via www.charitypamperevening.eventbrite.co.uk

Birds killed after farm raid

Farm manager Mark Game views the empty hut where a cockerel and two chickens were killed by a fox at Northycote Farm, Wolverhampton

STAFF and supporters of Wolverhampton's Northycote Farm are rallying round after vandals broke in and caused chaos.

Birds were killed after yobs tipped over and opened animal enclosures at the Underhill Lane site.

The vandalism allowed a fox to gain entry and kill Noel, along with a three-year-old cockerel and two hens.

The raid left farm staff heartbroken and with a huge clean-up operation.

Farm and countryside ranger Mark Game said Noel – a Norfolk Black turkey –was a particular favourite with many of the thousands of youngsters who visit the farm each year.

"Noel was a bad-tempered beast but the kids absolutely loved him," Mr Game said. "He was a very large bird and was with us for a good four years. All of our pens are secure and checked throughout the night, so whoever did this must have deliberately wanted to release the animals."

The farm, which welcomes up to 2,000 visitors a week during busy periods, had previously lost almost all of its livestock during a similar raid in 2012.

Farm staff say they are now on the lookout for a new turkey, while they have already received an offer to replace the chickens from a generous member of the public.

"The response from the public has been really positive, with people calling us up and asking how things are."

The raid, which also saw the main gates vandalised, happened in the early hours of Saturday.

Players to kick off city lights switch-on

WOLVES players Kevin McDonald and Matt Doherty will switch on Wolverhampton's Christmas lights this year.

They will be joined by Hollyoaks star Joe Tracini and the city's mayor Mike Heap for the big-switch on at 5pm on November 26 in Market Square.

Joe, the son of comedian Joe Pasquale, is appearing in the Cinderella pantomime at the Grand Theatre.

The celebrations will include a mini market, funfair and traditional Christmas music played by the Lady Wulfrun steam organ, belonging to Second World War veteran Joe Davies.

The family festivities also include entertainment from Free Radio and children's TV characters Ben and Holly as well as a spectacular firework finale at 6.30pm.

Councillor Elias Mattu, Wolverhampton City Council's leisure chief, said: "We want to see as many families as possible pack out Market Square and enjoy our Christmas lights switch on and fireworks show.

Free parking is being put on from 3pm onwards at the Mander Centre and Beatties, as well as at the School Street car park.

£25m science block opens

A NEW £25 million science block at the University of Wolverhampton has officially opened to students.

The ground and first floors of the block in Stafford Street are now open.

The old 1960s teaching building has been refurbished and extended both upward and outward and features state-of-the-art facilities for 2,500 students and 150 Faculty of Science and Engineering staff.

Professor Geoff Layer, the university's vice-chancellor, said the £25m facility was a 'real statement'.

Vegan party date

MEMBERS of the Wolves Vegan and Veggie group will hold their annual Christmas party on December 6

It is at The Hungry Bistro in Lichfield Street, Wolverhampton at 6pm.

For information on the group meetings call Tom on 01902 330855.

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Residents evacuated as gas pipe damaged

AROUND 45 residents were evacuated from their homes after a gas pipe at a shop was drilled through.

Firefighters were called to the grocers on Old Heath Road, Wolverhampton, at 8.30pm on Monday.

Wolverhampton watch commander Ivan Lilley said they were called after workers drilling into a wall at the front of the shop accidentally went into the pipe.

Mr Lilley said while the hole was only the width of a drill piece, about 7mm, it was the external side of the mains, so turning the meter off made no difference.

Ventilate

They called the gas board to isolate the supply to stop the leak.

Residents in nearby properties were evacuated from their homes for about two hours as a safety precaution and the area was cordoned off. Mr Lilley said they had breathing apparatus and a hose on standby just in case.

They were able to ventilate the building, and remained on the scene to check the gas levels were safe on all floors of the building, including the loft space.

Eight firefighters attended in total. No one required medical attention.

'Nightmare' of roadworks

A COUNCILLOR has branded emergency roadworks in Essington a 'nightmare'.

Wolverhampton Road in Essington closed on Saturday and will be for the rest of this week.

Severn Trent is undertaking emergency repair work on a collapsed sewer.

The road is one of the main routes between Essington and Wolverhampton and Essington Parish Council chairman David Clifft said diversions were causing problems for motorists.

"It's a complete nightmare."

Bake-off call

AN annual competition to find the 2015 Bread Pudding Bake Off champion takes place next month.

The tea shop at Baggeridge Country Park in South Staffordshire will host the event on December 7. Call 01902 673465 or register.

Liam joins star choir on new Band Aid single

Liam Payne arrives for the recording

MUSIC acts including Wolverhampton's One Direction star Liam Payne have been working round the clock on the new new Band Aid 30 single - which was released on |Monday after its first airing on the X Factor.

Big names from the world of music gathered to record the new single at the weekend. The music video was edited in "record time" so it could be shown to millions of viewers on the television talent show on Sunday and was made available to download the next day.

It came as the official BBC Children In Need charity single, featuring an all-star choir of famous faces, hit number one in the official charts.

Some of British music's best known stars including Ed Sheeran, Ellie Goulding and Rita Ora sing on the reworked Band Aid track Do They Know It's Christmas?

The video was screened on Sunday's X Factor results show fronted by Dermot O'Leary as the new recording marks the 30th anniversary of the song.

It was originally put together to raise funds for famine relief in Ethiopia. This latest version is expected to raise millions to ease Africa's Ebola crisis. As singers arrived at the studio in London's Notting Hill on Saturday morning to record the track, Bob Geldof revealed George Osborne called him to reveal he would waive VAT on the single.

He said: "The record, it's a song, it's a track, but it's an event, and the next stage now is to turn this into a phenomenon like it was in the 80s, and the only way to do that is to get people to buy the thing.

"Spare me this free economy. Spare me Spotify and YouTube. There is a donate button on YouTube. Hit the donate button."

Another year of misery at overcrowded hospital A&E

PATIENTS are still regularly being treated in corridors at New Cross Hospital's A&E department, despite multi-million pound improvements.

Hospital bosses say patients will have to grin and bear the misery for another year, before a new £30m Emergency Centre opens in November 2015.

The centre includes a badly-needed new A&E unit and good progress is being made, with a giant steel structure now towering over the Wednesfield site.

A £4m action plan last winter which included extra staff temporarily eased pressure on the overrun department. But this summer has been one of the busiest on record, with an unexpected early bout of norovirus in August fuelling fears of a tough winter ahead.

Broken

David Loughton, chief executive of the Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust, admitted the situation was 'horrendous' with staff continuously under huge pressure.

He said: "It's just horrendous. The whole system is broken. I don't think this winter's going to be particularly great. I can't remember us having norovirus as early. We're trying to get too many patients through too small a bed number.

"Things got better when we added beds to A&E last year but a couple of months later patients were back on the corridors and it's happening all the time.

"It's just a case of bracing ourselves for the next year."

The burden will ease in the next couple of months, with a new ward opening in January.

and all non-emergency surgery is moving to Cannock Chase Hospital.

Interchange office work is underway

IT is the latest scheme earmarked to transform a city centre.

Building work on a major office accommodation development for the heart of Wolverhampton is now under way. The development is part of the Interchange 10 scheme, which will see the redevelopment of the city's railway station and Metro stop.

Wolverhampton City Council has invested £10.6million in the project, which aims to attract further investment in the area, create jobs and form part of the new central transport hub.

The city council's cabinet member for economic regeneration and prosperity Peter Bilson was joined by the developer partners to see the first part of the structure put in place.

Councillor Bilson said: "We can see the start of construction work on the office buildings – the only top grade office accommodation in our area. It is a major milestone for this leading city centre regeneration project."

Games medallist is such a good sport

Swimmer Grant Turner shows off his silver Commonwealth Games medal to pupils at Villiers Primary

PUPILS in Bilston were put through their paces by a Commonwealth Games medallist and a 'sportivater'.

Villiers Primary School hosted the Sports for Schools event, with retired freestyle swimmer Grant Turner and the programme's 'sportivater' and event host Kev Gould leading the session.

Headteacher Duncan Cocker said everyone gave their all during the circuit activities. He said: "What a wonderful day we've had, all the children from Nursery to Year 6 have taken part and really enjoyed themselves.

"Days like this highlight the importance we place on enjoyment of sport at Villiers and the opportunities open to our youngsters."

Beginning with the high-energy activities, the day finished with an assembly where Mr Turner talked about his career and lessons learned in life, followed by a Q&A session.

Mr Turner, born in Swindon, was part of the silver medal-winning team in the 4x100m freestyle relay at the Delhi Commonwealth Games, and competed at the London Olympics and 2011 World Championships. The 25-year-old retired earlier this year.

Villiers pupils were sponsored for taking part in the event, and dressed up in costumes celebrating their sporting heroes.

The day was led by the PE co-ordinator Ameera Woolley and her sports' team. Sports for Schools visits more than 800 primary schools each year.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Civic Hall date for star Bridges

ONE of the country's top comedians is to play Wolverhampton Civic Hall as part of a nationwide tour, which has just been announced.

Scottish funnyman Kevin Bridges, who completed an epic 136-date world tour last year, is back on the road with his new show, A Whole Different Story.

The 28 year old will perform at the Civic Hall on July 25, 2015, as part of a full UK and Ireland tour.

This year he has hosted three BBC1 shows and performed at the Commonwealth Games.

Speed check call over two roads

A COUNCILLOR is calling for speed checks on two main roads in Wolverhampton.

Councillor Wendy Thompson, Conservative councillor for the Tettenhall Wightwick ward, said residents in Castlecroft have flagged problems with speeding vehicles.

She has asked the Wolverhampton City Council to instigate checks on Castlecroft Road and Windmill Lane, after similar checks were carried out on other roads in the area.

Visitors to RAF museum up 20pc

VISITORS to Cosford Royal Air Force Museum have increased by 20 per cent in the past six months.

A total of 184,808 people visited the museum between April and September. The Cosford figures exclude figures for the Cosford Air Show.

The rise is put down to investing more in marketing, exciting temporary exhibitions and better social media promotion.

Charity shop in plea for helpers

A CHILDREN'S charity is appealing for volunteers to help run its Wolverhampton store.

Barnardo's in Lichfield Street made the appeal as part of its Don't Hibernate, Activate campaign.

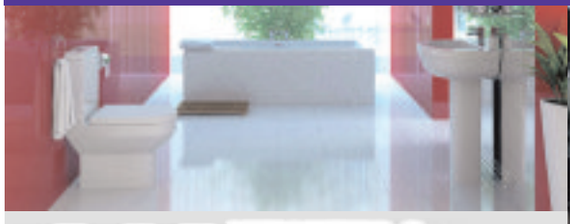
Anyone interested in helping out should visit www.barnardos.org.uk/volunteering for more information.

Third ward closed

A THIRD ward closed at New Cross Hospital due to norovirus.

Ward 25, a diabetes inpatient ward, was shut to new patients. Two other wards previously hit – C18 and A8 - partly reopened.

STUNNING KITCHENS AND BATHROOMS



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THE BEST OF PETER RHODES

A READER says he has already been overwhelmed by Christmas spirit. He rushed out and bought his wife a new coal shovel, even though her battered and splintered old shovel would probably last until the January sales. Sir, she does not deserve you.

MORE green cobblers. A reader reports seeing this on the rear of a builders' van: "To reduce our carbon footprint this vehicle is limited to 70 mph." Which is, of course, the maximum national speed limit.

A READER, aware of my North Country roots, suggests the latest Volkwagen UP, an electric car which costs virtually nothing to run, should appeal to Yorkshire folk. He adds: "Its full name is E-UP. See? It even speaks Yorkshire."

NO-ONE denies that landing a European spacecraft on a comet far, far away is a brilliant technical achievement. However, the Rosetta project has gobbled up more than £1,000 million of our money and we have no choice in such matters. We EU taxpayers are committed by various Euro-treaties to spend colossal amounts of money on space research. Given a democratic choice, how many of us would have voted to send a spaceshot to a comet rather than spending the money on something more pressing? Today our EU bosses may be thrilled to have put a probe on Comet 67P. But if we had invested that £1,000 million in medical research we might have have found a cure for cancer.

THEY'RE still grumbling up in Scotland and the effigy of Alex Salmond at the Lewes bonfire did not improve Anglo-Scottish relations. A contributor to a Scottish newspaper's website tells the tale of a reporter in Dundee who came upon a terrible incident. A pit-bull terrier was attacking a small boy in the street when a man leaped forward and throttled the beast with his bare hands. The reporter pulled out her mobile phone, contacted her office and said: "I've got a great story. Use the headline: Dundee Hero Saves Child by Killing Vicious Dog. The bloodstained hero interrupted her: "Actually, I'm not local," he explained. "I'm from Wolverhampton." The reporter snarled into her mobile: "Change headline to Englishman Kills Family Pet."

I MAY be a little out of touch with cinema etiquette. Since when has sitting in an auditorium among strangers and stuffing your face with a big, greasy, smelly hot dog been acceptable behaviour?

ONE of Auntie Beeb's finest was trying to explain how a piffling £1.1billion fine, imposed by the Financial Conduct Authority on five banks (which will end up being paid by shareholders and customers) is any sort of punishment for dodgy business practices. He solemnly stressed the importance of "reputational damage" to the banks. Now, what reputation would that be?

I REFERRED recently to man landing on the moon in 1969. A conspiracy-minded reader says a) men never went to the moon and b) the proof is on YouTube. In fact a) yes, they did and b) no it isn't. But the more you try to change a conspiracy theorist's mind, the more they think they're on to something. As Elvis was telling me only the other day.

THE highlight of the Downton Abbey Christmas Special? Ladies Edith and Mary fight to the death for the love of Branson before the action shifts to Pentonville Prison for the double-hanging of Mr and Mrs Bates. You read it here first.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Driving up figures for 'risk' motoring

MORE than 94,000 fines have been handed out for bad driving across the West Midlands over the last year, with new figures revealing the most dangerous parts of the region.

Cannock (WS11) and Hednesford (WS12) postcode areas saw the most dished out with 1,084 and 1,005 penalties dished out for offences of careless driving and speeding.

Third in the table were drivers in WV6 which covers Tettenhall in Wolverhampton and Pattingham and Perton in South Staffordshire where in all 983 tickets were handed out.

Drivers in DY8, which covers Wordsley, Wordsley and Amblecote areas of Stourbridge and DY10 in Harvington, Kidderminster made up the top five in the area with 977 and 966 fines given respectively.

In the Walsall area, WS10 for Darlaston had 589 fines, just ahead of WS9 for Aldridge on 481.

In Sandwell the worst area was Tipton (DY4) with 585 fines, ahead of 554 for B63, Halesowen.

Elsewhere in Wolverhampton one of the highest fines was for WV10, covering Oxley, Bushbury, Fordhouses and Featherstone, with 782 fines.

A total of 94,225 fines were handed out across the West Midlands during 2013, many of which were in areas that have a large number of country roads.

The research was done by road safety charity Brake which is trying to highlight the dangers of poor driving during the current Road Safety Week. In the West Midlands 156 people were killed last year.

Banking on Fred with close shave for Pudsey

By Rob Cox

FROM singing their hearts out to shaving their hair off, the Midlands went Pudsey Bear crazy with wonderful and wacky stunts for Children In Need.

Last Friday the nation tuned-in to be entertained by Sir Terry Wogan and the usual combination of celebrity cameos.

And across the Black Country and Staffordshire people have been carrying out their own fundraising activities.

Fred Hamar, Deputy Manager at the Queens Square Wolverhampton branch of Natwest bank, had his head shaved as part of the efforts.

Staff set a target of raising £200, with Fred agreeing to shed his shoulder length locks if they managed to raise the money.

Variety

The bank branch clocked up a total of £500, leaving Fred with no option but to say goodbye to his hair.

Customer Services Officer, Sharon Lett, said: "As soon as he verbally agreed to take part in the head shave, we put posters up so he couldn't back out.

In Heath Town, Wolverhampton, more than 150 people packed into Holy Trinity Church, to see a variety show.

The entertainment was organised by charity Re-entry which helps children who are not in school in the Wolverhampton area.

The charity has received funds from Children in Need in the past.

The show included music performances, dance groups, African drummers and a storyteller.

It was organised by Fran Oliver and Lucy Jackson who work for the charity.

In Walsall, staff at Ormiston Shelfield Community Academy gave their pupils a special treat, pulling together to put on an 'S Factor' variety show. Events included a sponsored silence, cake sales and girls were encouraged to go 'bear-faced'.

Casey Harley from Zaks Hairdressing shaves the hair of Deputy Manager Fred Hamar watched by Customer Service Officer Sharon Lett at NatWest Bank in Queen Square, Wolverhampton

African Drummer Calvert Lawson from Whitmore Reans, with, from left, Lucy Jackson , Skyla Perry and Fran Oliver, all from Wolverhampton, at Holy Trinity Church in Heath Town

Petition for change at 'danger' junction

A 600-signature strong petition will be handed in by councillors demanding change at a 'nightmare' junction near Wolverhampton.

Villagers in Featherstone want Staffordshire County Council to re-think the link between the A460 Cannock Road and The Avenue.

Residents have claimed they are 'risking their lives' pulling out of the junction onto Cannock Road heading to Wolverhampton.

Councillors from Featherstone and Brinsford Parish Council will hand the petition into the county council next month and will also give a copy to South Staffordshire MP Gavin Williamson.

Councillor Frank Beardsmore said: "The number of people signing the petition just shows the level of frustration and anger about this junction.

"Comments coming from people are that it's about time that something is done about it. People feel they are taking their lives in their hands by pulling out at the junction. It is a nightmare.

"From as early as 6am until 7pm at night it is a constant struggle to get out of village and residents have said they are waiting as long as 15 minutes at times."

Darts ticket sales up 400

TICKET sales for this year's Grand Slam of Darts were up 400 on last year, bosses have announced.

Phil Taylor once again triumphed in the annual competition at Wolverhampton Civic Hall, beating Dave Chisnall 16-13 in a dramatic final.

Around 12,000 fans piled into the venue for the nine-day tournament - just 400 shy of the record. And between them they swigged 38,000 pints, ate 1,200 portions of chips, scoffed 734 pies, pasties and sausage rolls and chomped their way through 418 pork baps.

Craft fair fun

BILBROOK will be hosting a Christmas craft fair on Sunday.

The event at the village hall will run from 10.30am -4pm with plenty of festive fun on offer.

Proceeds will be split between village hall fund and the Salvation Army.

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Parking present for festive shoppers

SHOPPERS will be offered free parking in the run-up to Christmas.

Fold Street car park, the Mander Centre and Beatties will be open for free on Wednesday nights and Sundays in December.

The free parking starts in School Street on the night Wolverhampton's Christmas lights are switched on, Wednesday, November 26 from 3pm.

The Mander Centre and Beatties car parks will also be free on that day, while they and Fold Street will be free on the following late-night shopping Wednesdays up to Christmas, as well as all Sundays in December and on December 22 and 23.

Wolverhampton City Council's regeneration chief Councillor Peter Bilson said: "By offering free parking in Wolverhampton city centre during the festive season we can draw in more shoppers and boost business for local traders.

"We hope as many people as possible come in to the city to shop and enjoy the festive attractions."

WV One boss Kim Gilmour said the free parking offers in the run up to Christ mas were fantastic news for loyal city centre customers.

Two new child care centres

TWO new child care centres are due to open in Wolverhampton this week.

One is at Merridale Primary School on Aspen Way and the other at Star and Bingley Childrens Centre on Norfolk Road, Penn Fields. They will offer 15 hours free child care for two-year-olds per week.

Merridale Primary School has had its caretaker's bungalow converted into a stand-alone facility which can cater for up to 16 children.

The site at Star and Bingleys Childrens Centre will be able to hold 32 children.

Mistletoe talk

THE South Staffs group of the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust is hoping a talk on mistletoe will get people in the mood for Christmas.

The talk by Dr Michael Jones is at Wombourne Community Centre Library on November 27. Call 01902 892776 for details.

New bus shelters part of £9m scheme

NEW bus shelters are set to be installed in Wolverhampton as part of a £9 million scheme that will also improve transport links to the i54 business park.

The news comes after it emerged taxpayers have shelled out almost £3,000 over the past year to repair vandalised shelters around the city.

Councillor Elias Mattu said: "I welcome the plans to bring new bus shelters to the city. Unfortunately people who damage shelters don't think of who they are affecting, including our elderly people, who need them, especially at this time of year.

"There have always been issues regarding damage to bus shelters but the actions of a small minority shouldn't mean we have to put up with not having them. I would encourage that these new shelters are looked after."

Information

The new shelters will include the latest enhanced information for passengers.

As well as the work in Wolverhampton, Centro has also revealed plans to refurbish Dudley bus station and put a new generation of buses out on the roads.

New Sapphire buses, set to hit the streets this year, will feature leather seats, charging points for mobile phones and free wi-fi. and the capacity to take electronic smartcards, similar to London's Oyster card.

Operator Arriva will also work with Centro to improve transport links to and from the i54 business park, including the launch of the new 54 bus in October.

Arriva Midlands regional managing director, Alex Perry, said: "At Arriva Midlands, we are incredibly proud of the part we play in ensuring our customers have access to the very best transport service possible."

A total of 22 different projects will take place as part of the £9m improvement scheme up until 2016, with the aim of making bus travel more attractive, improving customer satisfaction and growing passenger numbers.

Centro vice-chairman, Councillor Kath Hartley, said: "This brand new partnership agreement commits Centro and Arriva Midlands to working closely together.

"By doing so we can deliver many improvements for passengers that will help make bus travel more attractive in the West Midlands region."

Business BID will bring £3m investment to city

AROUND £3million will be invested in Wolverhampton after businesses backed a proposal for the city to become a Business Improvement District (BID).

Almost 90 per cent of businesses in the city centre voted 'yes' in a ballot to see who was in favour.

Wolverhampton will now become the first BID in the Black Country and join more than 180 which have been set up in the UK since 2005.

The vote gives the go ahead for the team to take forward a business plan, drive investment in the city centre and give local businesses a greater say in the way it is marketed, maintained and managed.

Up to £3m will be invested over five years, with the proposals coming in from next year onwards.

Confidence

Nicholas Pitt, chair of the Wolverhampton BID Task Group and manager of the Mander Centre said: "This is a strong vote of confidence from the businesses who trade here and who clearly see the city's potential for change.

"The investment from local businesses will be used to improve our area, contribute towards a more successful and profitable future, making the city centre a better place for customers and businesses alike."

The BID ballot was run for 28 days in October and November, ending last week.

A majority of votes are needed for a BID to become official.

A task group of prominent businesses – including the Mander Centre, Beatties, Primark, Boots, the Grand Theatre and the Light House – will be responsible for making key decisions for the BID.

Road speed cameras on way back

SPEED cameras will be back in part of the West Midlands next year – with plans to roll them out across the Black Country in 2017.

Last year the costly 'wet film' cameras were switched off by the West Midlands Road Safety Partnership with the police opting for mobile technology to snare speeders.

But a £1 million pilot in Birmingham and Solihull has been backed by Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson where new digital camera technology would replace the redundant models.

Bosses have now gone out to tender to find providers of the cameras which they hope will go live as soon as August 2015. The project would finish in April 2017 but there is the possibility of further extensions to the scheme in autumn 2017.

Councillor Tahir Ali, Birmingham City Council's transport chief, said: "Beyond the tragic consequences for families , these reported road traffic collisions also cost over £220 million each year to the Birmingham economy."

Medals are icing on cake for shop staff

Cake artists with their array of award-winning cake designsat Shuga Budz, Compton

IT was the icing on the cake for staff at a Wolverhampton cake shop after they picked up six gongs at a leading show celebrating the best of baking.

Shuga Budz in Bridgnorth Road, Compton, won three golds, one silver and two bronze at Cake International held at the NEC.

In the wedding cake category Rachel Wellsbury picked up a gold medal and was awarded third place overall, owner Debbie Mutting won a silver, while Sarah Phillips and Rachel Dale were awarded bronze. In the decorative exhibits category, Vicki Swann and Amelia Mason both struck gold.

Mrs Mutting, who has been running her cake business for seven years, said: "For me and my girls it is great and gives us a real sense of pride.

"Me and Amelia have entered before and were also runners up in another major cake ceremony. It is fantastic and we have got all the certificates on the wall.

Mrs Mutting, 54, started baking cakes at home but as the business grew she moved to a shop in Lower Green Tettenhall before moving to Compton a year ago.

Asked what was the secret of her shop's success at the competition, she said: "Imagination. They are looking for something imaginative and unique. There also needs to be a lot of skill involved. They also love everything to be precise and very cleanly done."

Bakers from all over Britain descended on Birmingham's NEC.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Good neighbours names are needed

NOMINATIONS are being sought for a good neighbour competition in the Black Country.

The contest is being run by Wolverhampton Homes and anyone who is a tenant or leaseholder can enter. There will be an award for the winner and the nominator.

Bosses say they are looking for someone who does that extra bit to help someone in their community.

To find out more about the competition and to nominate someone log onto wolverhamptonhomes.org.uk/tenants/get-involved/good-neighbour

New Costa due to open at retail park

COSTA Coffee is set to open a new branch in Wolverhampton later this month.

The coffee giant is set to open a store at Bentley Bridge retail park in Wednesfield.

It is thought the opening of the new store will create up to eight new jobs.

The news has been met with a positive response from shoppers, many of whom have previously bemoaned the lack of a dedicated coffee shop on the site.

Chance to show off music talents

WOULD-BE musicians will be able to show off their talents at a live music event at an arts centre.

Light House Media Centre in Wolverhampton will be hosting an open-mic session on November 28, where anybody can turn up and perform in front of the audiences.

The event, in the former Chubb lock works in Fryer Street, starts at 8pm, and admission is free.

Town in need of hotel – councillor

WEDNESFIELD needs its own hotel, a councillor has claimed.

Phil Bateman, who represents Wednesfield North, says the town is expanding so much that is requires accommodation for visitors.

He is calling on investors to look at possible sites, with the draw of Bentley Bridge and the canalside making a hotel sustainable.

Sooty to sweep in

CHILDREN'S TV favourite Sooty will be coming to the Wulfrun Hall next year.

Sweep and Soo will be coming as well. There will be two performances on March 14.

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IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews

TWENTY-FIVE years ago this month, the final phase of the Merry Hill centre opened, an occasion which has surely transformed the shopping habits of the West Midlands in a way that could never have been envisaged at the outset.

Almost instantly, Marks & Spencer closed its branches in both Dudley and West Bromwich, lured by the free rates and easy parking of the new out-of-town centre.

Initial reports suggested a 70 per cent fall in the number of people shopping in Dudley town centre, and slowly, but surely, it has also affected town and city centres further afield.

A quarter of a century on, its legacy is still a matter for debate.

Some people love the warm, all-weather malls, others hate the devastating impact it has had on town centres which have been there for hundreds of years.

The majority, though, I suspect, do not feel that strongly one way or the other. They simply take the view that if that is where Marks & Spencer, British Home Stores or Sainsbury's is, that's where they will go.

According to Dudley Council leader, Councillor David Sparks, "Merry Hill enabled Dudley to look Birmingham in the eye," and on that point I really have to disagree.

Dudley cannot, and never has been able to look Birmingham in the eye, certainly not within living memory, and realistically, it is not going to any time soon.

However, Merry Hill is probably the reason why Dudley can no longer look Wolverhampton or Walsall in the eye, either.

And for that I will always be very sad.

❒❒❒❒❒

WEST Midland clergyman the Rev Alan Fraser, who drives a petrol-electric hybrid vehicle which is exempt from road tax, observes that he still has to go on to the DVLA website to not pay the road tax he does not owe.

He adds: "There is a range of (non) payment options, although I apparently will be charged £2.50 if I decide to not pay by credit card.

"So, if I have understood this, I am to not pay for a tax disc that I now won't get sent."

And if he does not comply, presumably he will be sent a final demand to not pay his road tax.

❒❒❒❒❒

AYLI visits Aynuk in hospital, and is concerned with his friend's state of despondency about his condition.

"Chayer up, aer kid, yo' do' cum 'ere to die," says Ayli.

Aynuk replies: "Yo' ay' rung, aer kid, I day cum in 'ere to die. I cum in six wik agoo."

Present day pit guide Pete Myatt from Pedmore

Black Country miners about to go underground

In the thick of it — guide Keith Mellor from Halesowen

Museum's mine marks milestone

The Black Country Living Museum coal mine exhibit is 25 years old. **CHARLIE BENTON** reports

ITS dark, winding tunnels have transported a generation of museum visitors back in time to the subterranean world of the Black Country's mining past.

Now the Black Country Living Museum is celebrating 25 years since its £1 million man-made coal mine exhibit first opened to the public.

Four million visitors have been taken 'into the thick' since November 1989, up to 1,500 a day during peak times.

The Black Country was famous for the Staffordshire Thick Coal, which lay beneath much of the area in seams up to 10 metres thick and the mine exhibit was created to show how miners worked the thick coal and other seams in the Black Country in about 1850.

Maze

The mine itself is a 'drift mine', accessed by walking down a sloping tunnel.

As it comes to an end it splits into a maze of roadways and working areas, recreating the underground conditions as they would have been more than 160 years ago, with the roof coming as low as 1.5 metres in some places.

The mine, which wasn't built until 10 years after the museum itself was first opened, was the brainchild of former director of the museum Ian Walden and was funded entirely by the council and local businesses.

In total, there are over 200 metres worth of tunnels which makes the Into the Thick exhibit one of the largest, if not the largest, replica mine tours in the UK.

Original mine guides Barry Salt, Bryan Harris and Ron Butcher

After originally looking at opening up an old mine, the museum chose to use cement blocks to build a brand new, man-made mine to prevent risks to visitors and minimise flooding.

Despite being unsafe to reopen as an exhibit, the museum has a total of 42 disused mineshafts underneath it. Two of them are preserved at the Racecourse Colliery and Brook Shaft areas of the museum.

Back in the 1800s many of the mines across the Black Country not only endangered their workers, but also those who lived in houses above them, which were slowly 'pit-pulled' down into the empty space below. The museum has an example of the phenomenon on-site in the form of a 'tilted cottage'.

"It's easy to forget the kind of working conditions miners were subjected to," said David Eveleigh, Director of Collections, Learning & Research at the museum. "The mine tour is important because it immerses our visitors into the world of the miner in a way that hearing or reading about it simply can't.

"It is one of the most popular activities on our site for good reason and it especially resonates with children, the group which would have suffered the most at the hands of lax labour laws."

Ken Bradley, chairman of the Friends of the Black Country Museum group, said: "The museum wanted to illustrate how vital mining was to the area and how dangerous that work was.

"The site that the museum is built on actually had many working mines and there were enquiries made as to whether one of them could be used but the idea was turned down by the mine safety people as there were lots of problems with it.

"The director decided that a way around this would be to do a reconstruction mine and that is how it came about."

Mr Bradley said the contractors brought in to construct the mine were also involved with the living history Jorvik Viking attraction in York.

"The contractors at the time made panels out of synthetic materials to simulate the coalface," Mr Bradley said. "But when they were laying them they came across a real coal seam.

"Although they weren't allowed to leave the seam itself open they actually took patterns and remade the panels to look exactly the same."

He added: "My father was a coal miner in a real working mine and stepping into the reconstruction for the first time all those years ago suddenly brought everything back because it is so realistic."

As part of the anniversary celebrations the original tour guides have been invited back to the museum to take a tour themselves to commemorate the milestone.

Bryan Harris, of Gornal, 78, was a mine guide for more than 20 years from the 1989 opening. The former banker decided after he retired that he wanted to do something completely different. He said: "I loved every minute of it."

WEEK IN POLITICS

with Daniel Wainwright

WE need to talk about Europe. I say that knowing full well that for people who follow politics at the moment it seems as though we talk about little else.

But the farcical scenes in the Commons over the European Arrest Warrant show how toxic it is proving to be to the Tories.

Not that we need much more proof of that, of course. The by-election won by a Tory MP-turned-UKIPper and coupled with the likelihood of a repeat in Rochester should have made it abundantly clear by now.

MPs turned up to vote thinking they were going to get a say on the European Arrest Warrant itself. Instead the motion put before them was for just 11 of 35 measures that the coalition government wanted to opt into and the warrant was not one.

The Conservatives would not have wanted to face another rebellion by Eurosceptic backbenchers. But after all these years it should have been abundantly clear to the whips that anything with the word 'Europe' in it is not going to go down well with the likes of Stone's Sir Bill Cash or Aldridge-Brownhills MP Sir Richard Shepherd.

The latter, retiring at the election, made his feelings abundantly clear: "At the heart of this is a misconception about what this House represents... my over long time in this House of Commons has led me to understand the growth of executive arrogance is unsupportable."

Even reading the words one can hear the weariness in his voice. Sir Richard has been an MP since 1979. He's been rebelling on Europe since Maastricht.

Labour's shadow Europe minister is Wolverhampton South East MP Pat McFadden. He said the Tories have a 'psychosis' about the union and pointed out that there was actually more than enough support from the majority of the Tories, Liberal Democrats and Labour to vote the warrant through.

Now Labour has decided to debate and vote on it as part of an Opposition Day on the eve of the Rochester by-election. The thing is a mess. And this is before we have even got to the argument about the warrant itself.

As far as Mr McFadden and Labour are concerned, as well as the Tories in favour of it, is a means by which this country has managed to deport 1,000 foreign criminals in a single year and has resulted in the successful return of people wanted by our own authorities.

The arguments against include concerns over the ability of other EU member states to demand the extradition of British citizens without sufficient evidence.

There are various legal experts, civil liberties groups and others now turning it into a political football. Maybe we should have been worried about it, maybe not. But if they won't even debate it, the Government can't blame people for drawing their own conclusions.

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It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

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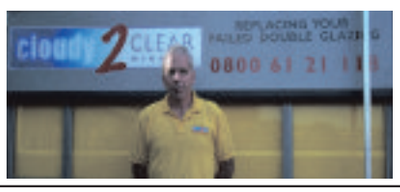
We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.'

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Brian a call for a free quotation on **0800 61 21 118** and he'll be happy to help!



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Car race motorist, 26, jailed for six months

A DRIVER has been jailed after racing another motorist on a stretch of dual carriageway at almost 100 mph.

Spectators watched as the Range Rover and VW Golf hurtled along the Black Country Route between Bilston and Ettingshall, a judge heard.

An unmarked police car caught 26-year-old Adam Thomas and the other driver red-handed shortly before midnight on June 29, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told.

Mr Howard Searle, prosecuting, said: "There had been reports of similar incidents and the word had got around. People were gathered to watch at an intersection while the unmarked police car was in the area to ensure that racing did not happen again."

Sirens

It caught up with the two cars after they had completed one lap of the circuit that saw them make 360 degree turns on roundabouts and reach speeds of 95 mph on the dual carriageway that had normal traffic travelling on it, the court heard.

Then the undercover police car activated its lights and siren prompting the Range Rover to pull over but the VW driven by Thomas continued, explained Mr Searle. He was finally persuaded to stop and confessed that he had been going a 'bit fast' but tried to maintain he had not been travelling more than 10 mph above the 50 limit, it was said.

Mr Anthony Eskander, defending, said: "He fully understands the danger of what he did and appreciates that he could have caused injury to himself and other people.""

Thomas from Lowe Avenue, Darlaston, who had a dozen previous convictions for offences that included several motoring offences, admitted dangerous driving and was locked up for six months.The defendant was banned from driving for two years and will have to pass an extended test. A man, alleged to be the other motorist involved in the race, is to face trial.

Close-up on Lord Bilston

Authors Mel Chevannes and Frank Reeves with brother Councillor Bert Turner with Real Labour – the biography of Dennis Turner

A BOOK charting the life of legendary Black Country politician Dennis Turner has been officially launched.

Real Labour launched at St Martin's Church, in his native Bradley. The man who went on to known as Lord Bilston died of cancer this year. The staunch union man was born, raised and educated in Bradley and his brother Bert said the venue was a fitting location for the launch.

Husband and wife team Frank Reeves and Mel Chevannes compiled the book from interviews with Lord Bilston. They also spoke to colleagues, friends and family and an emotional Bert spoke of his pride at the finished work during Saturday's launch.

Bert, a councillor for Bilston East, thanks the biographers for their excellent work in difficult circumstances. He said: "I'm delighted the book has been done and I'm even more delighted by the response of the people."

Money raised from the book will go to Compton Hospice, which cared for Lord Bilston in his final months.

The book charts his Black Country upbringing and his rise through the political ranks.

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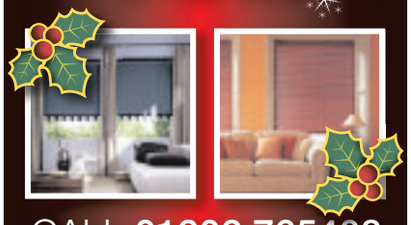
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Language workload can affect exams

HEADLINE -130 languages in city schools. Councillor Phil Page, cabinet minister for education at Wolverhampton City Council says: "The rich diversity of children in our schools and communities provide a strength for Wolverhampton."

Totally agree if all were English speaking, but this is not the case and resources already financially strained are diluted.

Story - Language barrier puts demand on teachers. Councillor Tim Crumpton, cabinet minister for education at Dudley Council describes list of languages as a challenge, but said it was helping teachers develop their skills and experience.

Are they missing the point? Education is about children attending school and receiving the highest possible level of education. Finally - Boss to be quizzed on poor GCSE results. Is Councillor Page unable to recognise the correlation between increasing teachers' workload and poor exam results?

B WOODHALL
Wolverhampton

Figures that fail to add up

THE University College London report that says European migrants contributed £20 billion more in taxes in the 11 years from 2000 to 2011 than they received in welfare, is more liberal spin.

Four of those years were before the great East European influx and are thus irrelevant. The vast majority of East Europeans who have come here are semi-skilled or unskilled and taken jobs at lower wages than indigenous British workers.

If they had not come here, the jobs would have been available to British people- Moreover, these Brits would have come off unemployment benefit.

J EGGINTON
Wolverhampton

Abortion test case set to fail

SOME unborn babies are being irreparably damaged by their irresponsible mothers drinking alcohol to excess.

A council, left with the expense of supporting these kids, has taken court action to criminalise the offence and claim criminal compensation from the government in order to offset their expense.

The abortion industry are up in arms and say that a woman has the right to do whatever she wants with her own body, irrespective of any damage caused to her unborn child in the process.

In my view this test case, which presumes unborn babies are persons in their own right and therefore can be victims under the Offence Against the Person Act, is doomed to failure. It follows that if this test case should decide that unborn children are presumed to be persons in their own right, then following this principle, the 7,000,000 abortions carried out since 1967 will have to be deemed to be mass murder.

J DAVENPORT
Wolverhampton

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST
Wolverhampton Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

E-MAIL
wolverhampton.chronicles@expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Flats plan is not our choice

TETTENHALL Neighbourhood Plan was recently adopted by Wolverhampton Council after 92 per cent of local people voted in favour. It was designed to give local people a say in planning decisions to ensure future developments reflect what people want.

So after attending an exhibition by McCarthy and Stone, on a proposed development of 22 flats in Stockwell Road, I am at a loss to how this is even being considered due to its size, impact on open spaces and increase in traffic.

After living in Stockwell Road for 25 years, I cannot remember another building of the same density, mass or scale in the road. Secondly, replacing one four-bedroom property with 22 flats will do nothing to improve the open spaces or enhance the conservation area. Thirdly, how will an extra 22 residencies not have an impact on the congested roads?

Fourthly, I am yet to meet any local residents who want this development. So what's the point of a neighbourhood plan?

A MURRAY
Wolverhampton

Expenses cost is outrageous

COULD someone please explain why Wolverhampton council tax payers, helped by central government funding, paid our 61 Wolverhampton councillors a total of £995,873.00 for expenses?

This includes, laughably, if it weren't so outrageous, Mayoral/Deputy Mayoral clothing allowances of £2,500.

As Wolverhampton is in dire financial straits, consideration should be given to immediate and drastic reductions in this area.

I have seen no mention of this whatsoever, but surely these councillors are not all essential.

Wolverhampton is not alone in being financially stretched. I gather that Dudley has 71 councillors whose expense payments are much higher.

I am tired of being told that central government funding cuts are responsible for the current situation. If budgets are to be balanced, consideration must be given to all areas where cuts could be made.

A EALES
Penn

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Link-up with Birmingham? No thanks, this is not wanted

UNTIL the 1960s, the Black Country consisted of a number of vibrant community towns, each with its own identity, industry and even unique 'culture'.

Encouraged by successive governments, and undoubtedly with the underlying motivation of 'empire building', the larger towns swallowed the smaller villages and districts.

For want of a better description, they milked them for all they were worth. Communities and community spirits were destroyed as towns such as Wolverhampton grew, with neither attractive personality nor distinguishing characteristics.

The next stage was the development of the 'West Midlands' changing millions of much- loved former addresses for good (remember when, for example, it was Bilston, Staffs?). Now, the next ominous stage; my local MEP tell me that this month in Brussels, our Wolverhampton Council leader was spotted in conference with the leader of Birmingham Council. The agenda? Creation of a Greater Birmingham.

This faceless and unwanted monster is destined to take over Wolverhampton, Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall, Solihull, Sutton Coldfield and so on.

Of course, such a colossal conurbation as favoured by the EU would attract huge financial grants to improve the lives of residents there in. Please pull my other leg! The root objectives are personal ambition, more white elephants, inflated executive salaries and the like.

And of course, we all know by now that when the EU says 'jump' our powerless and useless MPs ask 'how high please?'

Well, I say the plan stinks! Bilston folk still object to the Wolverhampton takeover nearly 50 years ago. Let's tell Brussels, Birmingham and our council – 'no thanks, not wanted!'

B LAWLEY
Bilston

Fireworks hit the weather

OVER recent years as anyone else like me noticed a shift in the pattern of the weather at this time of year with more rain, fog and damp cold weather?

Could this have something to do with more bonfires and fireworks creating a blanket of toxic soup into the atmosphere?

When I was growing up bonfire night was on the November 5 only, not over days or weeks as is the case now. Added to this is other festivals such as Diwali 'festival of light', weddings, birthdays throughout the year, any excuse to light up the skies, this adds to the pollution of not only smoke but noise as well.

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Knife thug jailed after he punched two men

A KNIFE-wielding thug, who punched two men during a night of violence, has been jailed for 27 months.

The trouble flared when Kamal Lodge punched a man outside the Pear and Partridge pub, Perton, near Wolverhampton.

And it ended when window cleaner Shaun Bayliss was stabbed five times – a crime for which no-one has been convicted – outside the nearby Wrottesley Arms. Last month a jury acquitted Liam Phipps of attempting to murder Mr Bayliss.

However, Stafford Crown Court heard that it was Lodge who started the trouble by arming himself with a kitchen knife and threatening people. Lodge, aged 23, who is from London, admitted charges of assaulting Joey Padley, possessing an offensive weapon and affray.

Chasing

The court heard he punched Mr Padley before going with Mr Phipps to the home of Zoe Cattell, where Lodge got a phone call challenging him to a fight over the attack on Mr Padley.

He left her home armed with a kitchen knife, chasing a man named Alex Bennett before knocking him to the ground with a single punch. A struggle with Mr Bayliss followed during which Mr Bayliss was stabbed, but the judge made it clear that Lodge was not guilty of the stabbing.

After being arrested, Lodge was taken to hospital by police, headbutting an officer and throwing a dish of urine over him.

Mr Paul Lamb, defending, said: "There had been some drinking, he accepts that, and it led to the first incident outside the public house."

Sentencing Lodge to 27 months, Judge Tonking told him: "I make it quite clear that you, Lodge, are not guilty of that stabbing and it cannot be said with any certainty that the knife you took was the knife used to stab Mr Bayliss. But taking that knife was the spark for this violence."

Banking on food support

Helping to launch the Willenhall Food Distribution Project, vice chairman Alan Cooper and secretary Valerie Baker at Queen Lea Centre

A NEW food bank has been launched in the Black Country to help those in need.

Willenhall Food Distribution Project is run independently from Queens Lea Community Rooms and the committee behind it are hoping to make an impact with locals struggling for money to buy food.

Derek Showell, who is chairman of the distribution project, said help would be available to those who needed it every day: "There are a lot of food banks out there doing a great job but if they are open only once a week or once a fortnight, that kind of defeats the object.

"We offer our services on an individual basis, we take the specific requirements of everyone who is referred to us and they can come to us at any time."

People who are referred to the food bank are asked to give details of the number of people in their family and any dietary requirements before volunteers put together their food parcel. They are also asked if they have any pets who would need food and if they are unable to get to the base, drop offs are organised.

Those who want help have to be referred by organisations including Walsall Housing Group.

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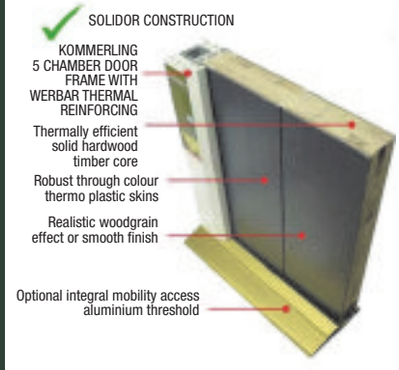

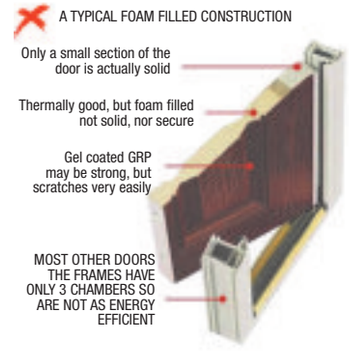

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Relief for landlords of empty properties

COUNCIL-TAX premiums imposed on empty properties could in future be waived if landlords are struggling to let or sell their premises.

By Mark Andrews

Wolverhampton Council will consider dropping the empty property premium – which adds an extra 50 per cent to the standard council tax – where owners prove they are trying to sell or let their buildings.

The changes were approved at a meeting of the cabinet resources panel. The council will assess each case on its merits, before deciding whether to grant full or partial exemptions.

Liable

Cabinet member for finance Councillor Andrew Johnson said: "We would want them to demonstrate they had tried to sell or let the property."

Last year, the council approved a discretionary scheme of discounts and charges relating to empty properties. Owners of properties which have been empty for two years or more are now liable for a charge of an extra 50 per cent on top of standard council tax. However, the panel approved plans to grant exemptions to landlords struggling to find occupants for their properties.

The new guidelines say exemptions might also be granted where the owner experienced technical or legal issues in selling or letting the property, or where the landlord was in negotiation with the council for letting the property under a local authority scheme.

The change in policy comes in response to new government guidelines advising local authorities to consider difficulties in finding occupants.

The meeting also approved measures which would see residents fined £70 for failing to supply their details.

Song for Kiahna is proving a real hit

Andrew Ayres, who has written Kiahna's Song, with Kiahna Taylor-Brummell, 8, and her father Neil

A SONG written about a little girl who has survived five life-threatening operations is proving a huge success – even knocking Barry Manilow off the top of an easy-listening chart.

Kiahna's Song is about Kiahna Taylor-Brummell, 8, daughter of publicans Neil Taylor and Kerry Brummell who run the Fox at Shipley pub, near Pattingham.

Penned by Mr Taylor's friends, Andrew Ayres and Steph Burgess, from Stoke, the song has exceeded all expectations. And now the people behind it are aiming for the top 40, with money raised going to Birmingham Children's Hospital.

The song celebrates the youngster's courage and determination and tells the story of a parent's anxious wait for their child to return from theatre and a critical operation.

Mr Taylor, 44, said he was overwhelmed with the success of the song, which can regularly be heard playing at the pub. The song was released earlier this month and has also reached number 53 in the US easy listening download chart, as well as topping the same UK chart.

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Drug plot sweet-talking ex-con back behind bars

A SWEET-TALKING ex-con who tempted a jail worker into smuggling drugs into Featherstone Prison is back behind bars.

Andrelle Leedham faces a long sentence after masterminding the plot.

Lovestruck warder Hannah Stewart, 27, fell for the 26-year-old father-of-one while he was in the jail for blackmail, Stafford Crown Court heard. The pair met in the education department where Stewart was an operational support officer.

Prosecutor Mr Gerard Quirke said: "He showed her a lot of attention."

Recorder Peter Cooke said he believed the lovers had sexual relations in the prison. Stewart had maintained they were not intimate until after Leedham was released in August last year. The relationship fizzled out within a couple of months but they remained in contact and the defendant hatched the drug plot by text message.

Phones

He arranged for her to take a sports bag containing cannabis, 700 anabolic steroid tablets, eight bottles of spirits and seven mobile phones into the jail but an inmate was caught with the bag.

Stewart from Oaks Drive, Featherstone, whose father and brother have both been prison officers at the jail, has admitted her involvement in the drug plot and misconduct in a public office. She is awaiting sentence. Her father worked at the jail but knew nothing of it.

A jury unanimously found Leedham guilty of conspiring to supply cannabis and anabolic steroids and conspiracy to convey prohibited articles into HMP Featherstone.

Recorder Cooke said: "He inveigled his way into her affections and was manipulative. Leedham was the prime mover and was certainly pulling the strings."

Leedham, whose home address is Thompson Avenue, Blakenhall, Wolverhampton, was remanded in custody and will be sentenced with the two inmates also involved in the plot.

Serving up city sushi first

Iso Sushi head chef Dorjee Sherpa, from Wolverhampton, with some of the food on offer at the new restaurant in Chapel Ash

AN authentic taste of Japanese cuisine has arrived in Wolverhampton with the opening of the city's first sushi restaurant.

ISO Sushi has opened on Tettenhall Road, Chapel Ash, at the site of the former Rumbles takeaway.

Bosses have spent four months working on a plush £40,000 refurbishment of the building, with a large rear extension allowing the restaurant to serve up to 40 customers at full capacity.

On opening night, head chef Dorjee Sherpa served up traditional sushi classics like Katsu Bento, Nigiri and sumptuous handrolls along with hot dishes including Yakisoba and Teriyaki.

The event was attended by the Mayor of Wolverhampton, Councillor Mike Heap, who cut the ribbon before the first meals were served. Over the course of the weekend, more than 100 customers were welcomed through the doors.

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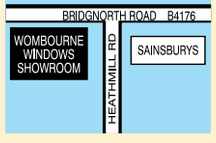

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Sadness as entertainment centre Quest due to close

MERRY Hill bosses have spoken of their sadness at the planned closure of the Quest entertainment centre just two years after it opened.

Paragon Entertainment has announced the loss-making venture will shut in six months.

Mike Butterworth, chief operating officer of Merry Hill's owner Intu, said: "We have seen Paragon Entertainment's statement about Quest serving notice on its space. We are sorry it's closing but respect the decision taken by Paragon Entertainment."

The £1.3 million children's attraction failed over the last two years to deliver the huge number of visitors hoped for. The entertainment zone, which opened in November 2012, saw the atrium at one of the centre's main entrances converted into an exciting indoor 14-metre high wire area. Initially Paragon Entertainment, which has created visitor attractions like Titanic Belfast, the Wallace and Gromit ride at Blackpool Pleasure and the official Olympic Museum in Switzerland, operated an outdoor ice rink as well.

The first two months saw 15,000 people using Quest with the ice rink proving a hit, but despite many new attractions for children from under-two upwards being added since including a Nerf blaster combat zone in a giant tented area and an indoor mini golf course and soft play area in the former Harry Ramsden's restaurant area, it had failed to generate an operating profit.

The company said last year that one of the reasons for the poor performance was its location in the centre and good summer weather had also seen a fall in numbers.

Fun time for family in the Quest area which is due to be closed

Badger pledge on crematorium plan

THE man behind plans for a crematorium in Perton has said badgers will be protected, after concerns from conservationists.

Billy Wilson, who runs the Tough Guy assault course, wants to build a £4 million crematorium inside a forest in Jenny Walkers Lane, Perton.

But Staffordshire Badger Conservation Group said it wanted an ecological survey to assess the impact on badgers in the area.

Mr Wilson said he has commissioned a study and added: "We have a two acre hillside especially fenced off for over 250 Badgers who live above Sling Wood in a special badger conservation area. I have 20 years ago built a well- constructed hide in the middle for anyone to come and observe."

The site would create around 12 jobs and hold services Monday to Friday. Plans include a chapel with a congregation capacity of around 90. There would be two cremators, a book of remembrance room, public waiting room and entrance foyer and administration offices. Similar proposals near Tettenhall and Essington have emerged.

Shoplifter funded his addiction to gambling

A PROLIFIC shoplifter with a 'dreadful' record stole £4,500 worth of tools and electronics from stores across the country to fund his gambling addiction.

Kristofer Davies, from Bilston, has been put behind bars for a year for the crime spree following his 17th appearance in court for theft and dishonesty.

He was caught with accomplice Robert Morris, also from Wolverhampton, when their theft of nine Makita tools worth more than £1,000 from Wickes in Gloucester was thwarted by police stopping them as they made their getaway on the M5.

Davies and his gang tried to disable CCTV and alarm systems during the many raids.

Fence

He pleaded guilty to stealing 17 Makita power tools worth a total of £3,216 from Wickes in Winsford, Cheshire, in January, as well as a £300 camera from Staples in Banbury in February and just over £1,000 worth of tools from Wickes, Gloucester, in March.

Davies, aged 27 of Slim Avenue, had also been committed for sentence by Wolverhampton Magistrates Court for a further theft of tools, committed while on bail, at Travis Perkins in Dudley on July 16.

Prosecutor Edward Hetherington said a silver BMW was used in the Cheshire, Banbury and Gloucester thefts.

After the final raid, staff found a freshly-cut hole in the wire fence and police soon picked Davies and Morris up in the BMW on the M5 northbound, with the loot found in the car.

By Tim Spiers

Makkan Singh Shoker, for Davies, said he committed the offences after developing a gambling addiction following the break up of a six-year relationship with the mother of his daughter.

Mr Shoker disputed that the thefts were professional, saying Davies had been caught on CCTV at all the shops and had left his DNA and fingerprints at one of them.

Davies now had a new relationship and had curbed his gambling, he said.

Judge William Hart told Davies: "This was professional offending, targeting high value goods, amounting in value overall to £4,500 and you are a man with a dreadful record."

Morris, aged 52 and of Selwyn Road, Bilston, who admitted the Gloucester offence and had 32 previous convictions, was sentenced to a 12-month community order with a requirement to do 180 hours of unpaid work.

Police mental health scheme is extended

A WEST Midlands Police mental health scheme has been expanded into the Black Country.

The initiative sees police officers crewed with psychiatric nurses and paramedics on a dedicated response vehicle to answer calls involving people believed to be experiencing mental ill health. It started in January as a pilot project covering Birmingham and Solihull but coverage now spans the entire West Midlands region.

Chief Inspector Sean Russell said: "The initiative has been hugely successful primarily because it means medical experts, rather than police officers, are on hand to carry out assessments on individuals at the scene.

"It's resulted in a dramatic drop in the number of people deemed necessary to detain under the Mental Health Act, whilst those judged to be in need of help are now being taken to safe health facilities instead of police cells.

The scheme aims to provide on-the-spot assessments.

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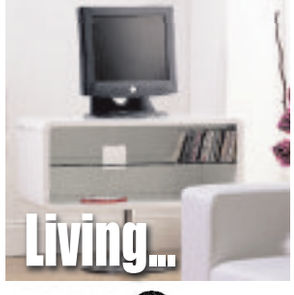

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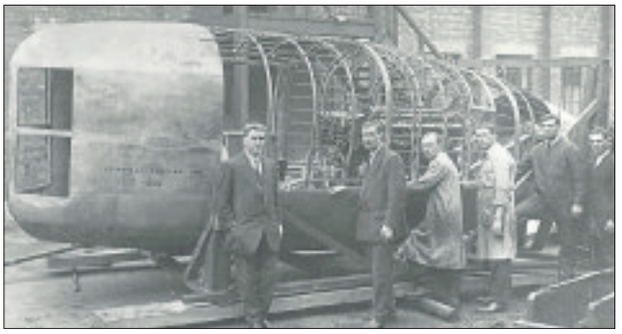
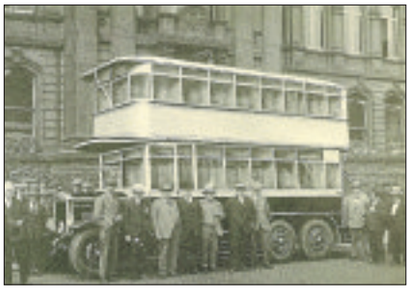
Harry Nott, ex-RFC, at his wedding


Sunbeam workers in 1919 with one of the airship gondolas they were to produce


A Guy 6 -wheel bus, one of post war success stories

Some of the many in Josiah Parkes in 1922

How post-war work return never took off

MEMORY LANE

By Alec Brew

AT 11 am on November 11, 1918 the guns fell silent across the world.

They were firing right up to the last second, as many of the gunners wanted to claim that they had fired the last shot in the 'War to End all Wars'.

Then began the process of returning the millions of men and women, but mostly men to their homes, where many expected to return to their old jobs, supplanting the women who had taken their place; but things were not as simple as that.

Wolverhampton, and the Black Country in general, were geared up for war, turning out munitions, warplanes, guns, and all the paraphenalia of the modern conflict.

Orders were cancelled, though production of, now unwanted items, continued into 1919.

Companies had to find new products to turn their skills to. Wolverhampton was well served in the new motorised age with many vehicle manufacturers, who thought they could return to car and motor-bike production and find a ready market with the returning servicemen, many of whom had become well used to motor vehicles during the four years of conflict.

Dominated

Sunbeam returned their car production from Rover in Coventry but still hoped to make a large business in the production of aero-engines, which had dominated the Villiers Street factories during the war.

They were to find that the competition from Rolls-Royce in particular and from cheap war-surplus engines was too much, and they hardly sold an aircraft engine after the war.

Round the corner Star returned to car production, but were never able to sell enough from their confined factories to sustain the business, and firstly their Briton division and then Star itself went to the wall, and Edward Lisle, founder of the company took his life.

Guy returned to making trucks, and became hugely successful.

Other companies were also to find ready markets for their metal-bashing skills, making locks, bicycles, ploughshares, and all the nuts and bolts to put them together.

Elsewhere servicemen returned to quieter lives, opening shops, starting their own businesses, often with the skills they had learned in the Army, and looked forward to re-building their lives.

Edward Lisle who took his own life after business failure

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£25m science block opens up

A NEW £25 million science block at the University of Wolverhampton has officially opened to students.

The ground and first floors of the block in Stafford Street are now open.

The old 1960s teaching building has been refurbished and extended both upward and outward and features state-of-the-art facilities for 2,500 students and 150 Faculty of Science and Engineering staff.

Professor Geoff Layer, the university's vice-chancellor, said the £25m facility was a 'real statement'.

He said: "This is a fantastic facility and we are delighted to have opened the first phase.

"It is a real statement and investment in science by the university and provides first rate labs for our students to learn in.

"Not only that but now we have an outreach lab available so we can engage with local schools."

Owzat? Ex-bank chief Mervyn now president of cricket club

FORMER Governor of the Bank of England and ex-Wolverhampton schoolboy Mervyn King has been appointed the president of Worcestershire County Cricket Club.

Lord King, a former pupil of Wolverhampton Grammar School, will be president for the club's 150th anniversary celebrations next year.

The son of a Gornal headmaster, Lord King grew up in Canterbury Road, Penn, and is a lifelong fan of the club. Outgoing president John Elliott, praised the appointment as "a wonderful decision and a great name to be associated with the cricket club."

Lord King's support for the Pears goes back to their first County Championship title triumph in 1964.

He said he was keen to play an active role in Worcestershire's landmark year, and predicted exciting times ahead with the major redevelopment of New Road in the past decade and the young, talented squad which has earned promotion to Division One in the Championship.

Former Worcestershire wicket-keeper Elliott, who also spent eight years as club chairman, added: "He is a very passionate supporter of Worcestershire. He will be around on the cricket circuit as well and is going to help with our fund-raising for the 150th anniversary year.

"It's a great name to have associated with the club."

Lord King said, who is also an avid Aston Villa supporter, said the appointment was a great honour.

"My youth was spent at New Road watching the first Worcestershire side win the county championship 50 years ago. With the 150th anniversary next year, there is much to celebrate in our history. The future is even brighter."

Appointed – Mervyn King

Tax summaries welcome – MP

PLANS to issue taxpayers with personal summaries will allow them to understand better how their money is being spent, an MP has said.

South Staffordshire MP Gavin Williamson welcomed the announcement that from this week more than 24 million taxpayers across the UK will receive details of how much direct tax they pay, and how it is spent by the Government.

Mr Williamson said: "We believe taxpayers deserve to know how the Government spends the money they have earned and paid in taxes.

"These new personal tax summaries will deliver exactly that, letting many taxpayers in South Staffordshire find out how much direct tax they're paying and what it's being spent on. This will mean fairer taxes for everyone, with taxpayers able to hold politicians to account."

Chloe beats bullies and picks up gold

Double gold medal winner Chloe Machin

WHEN Chloe Machin took up karate as a way of overcoming bullying, she never imagined that she'd end up as a double gold medal winner.

Four years after she started, the16-year-old represented England at the European Wado Kai Championships in Reading and came back a winner in both the singles and the team games. She said: "It's amazing to represent England. In a way, it doesn't feel real."

Chloe, who lives in Beechdale, Walsall, trains at least twice a week at Mushindo Wado-Kai, Bilston. She also studies personal training at Walsall College. Her proud mother, Jackie, said: "She loves karate – she lives and breathes it."

Not resting on her laurels, Chloe is already training for the world championships in Japan next year, and hopes to go on to train the next generation of gold medal winners.

"I want to make this my life," she added. Her trainer, Vince Parker said: "She's a very young spirited competitor that wants to do well. That's really important in a sport like karate. Considering her age, she's got her head screwed on, and that's going to do her well in the future.

Suburb drugs blitz by police is praised

A POLICE sergeant has praised work done by officers during a month-long operation aimed at tackling crime in a Wolverhampton suburb.

In a crackdown around Whitmore Reans, officers from the local neighbourhood policing team, supported by other Wolverhampton police teams as well as dogs and traffic units, arrested 12 people, seized large quantities of Class A drugs, recovered hundreds of thousands of pounds in cash and took three vehicles suspected of transporting drugs off the road.

Sergeant Kevin Whitehouse, who led the police activity, said: "We're pleased the operation, which provided a raised level of policing within the community to make the area uncomfortable and unattractive for both drug users and dealers, was able to achieve its intended aim.

"This operation forms part of our long-term plan to tackle drug-related criminality in the area."

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Headboards - assorted designs and colours		FROM £19
Lydia double leather bedstead	£599	£185
Silentnight Synergy Gold double drawer divan	£1399	£693

DINING ROOM	WAS	NOW
Dining Chairs - assorted styles to clear		FROM £25
Marble dining table & 4 chairs	£1719	£377
Kesterport Italian style sideboard	£1599	£428
Willis & Gambier English Manor sideboard	£1999	£429
Black glass dining table with 6 chairs	£999	£326
Stools - assorted styles to clear		FROM £28
Alfrank marble table with 4 chairs	£2400	£867
Flagstone bookcase	£1099	£329

FLOORING	WAS	NOW
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Soup-er kitchen help from Wolves trio

.Players Aaron McCarey, Leon Clarke and Ethan Ebanks Landell with Brother Stephen who runs soup kitchen

WOLVES football stars had a humbling experience when they volunteered at a soup kitchen in Wolverhampton.

Leon Clarke, Ethan Ebanks-Landell and Aaron McCarey served food at Darlington Street Methodist Church.

The kitchen welcomes up to 300 people and relies on donations from people, businesses, shops and restaurants.

The Wolves players donned aprons and gloves and helped dish out soup and other main meals at the city centre church. Brother Steven Brennan, one of the managers at the Good Shepherd Ministries project, said everyone was delighted to welcome the players.

Brother Steven said they were always on the lookout for volunteers and donations.

They serve soup, pizza, quiche, cakes, tea and coffee, and whatever else has been donated. The soup kitchen runs on Thursdays and Saturdays at 2pm.

Judge orders return of flat

A JUDGE has ordered that a council flat be handed back because it was being illegally rented out.

Jagdish Singh from Willenhall attempted to buy the Wolverhampton council flat but has now been ordered to give it back to the city council.

He also has to pay £3,000 in costs.

An investigation by fraud experts at Wolverhampton Homes found that Singh, aged 45, tried to buy the flat despite illegally subletting it. Singh had been a Wolverhampton Homes tenant at a property in Rooker Avenue in Parkfields, and in 2013 made an application to buy the house from the council under the Right To Buy legislation.

But Singh's mortgage application stated he'd lived in an address in Willenhall for the past seven years.

In interviews Singh, of Tobruck Walk in Willenhall, denied any wrongdoing, but further investigations found that he'd been illegally sub-letting the council property to other people.

Walsall County Court found Mr Singh was in breach of ground 1 of Schedule 2 to the Housing Act 1985 and ordered that the property in Rooker Avenue be handed back to the council and that he pay costs of more than £3,000.

Mark Henderson, director of housing at Wolverhampton Homes said it was an issue that the organisation was keen to crack down on. He said: "Tenancy fraud is illegal; it's not fair on others and is something which we take very seriously. We're pleased that the court has dealt with this."

Just 125 have say on gipsy pitches

JUST 125 people have had a say so far over plans for new gipsy settlements across South Staffordshire.

Residents in the area are now being asked to put forward their views on the proposals.

By law South Staffordshire Council must find 33 new pitches across the region by 2028 as part of a commitment to cater for the housing needs of all members of the community.

A total of 29 sites containing 166 pitches have been put forward by landowners for consideration, in areas including Shareshill, Coven Heath, Bilbrook, Seisdon and Essington. A consultation was launched last month to collect views on the prospective sites.

But after receiving just 125 responses so far, council bosses have made renewed calls for views. Councillor Bob McCardle, South Staffordshire Council's cabinet member for strategic services, said: "The responses we get from the public will have a direct influence on the final decision."

Last week South Staffordshire MP Gavin Williamson vowed to support Essington Parish Council's fight to stop any new sites in the village. The MP is campaigning to reduce the number of pitches in his constituency and has urged ministers to change planning laws.

He branded proposals for three new pitches in Essington as 'disgraceful'.

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Thanks Bill, you're a real Sheargold lifesaver

A MAN who lay dead for more than 10 minutes having suffering a heart attack after playing squash has been reunited with the quick-thinking leisure centre staff who brought him back to life.

Dave Penza, aged 65, collapsed on court at Bert Williams Leisure Centre in Bilston and went into cardiac arrest at the end of his weekly match against his close friend Stan Mann.

But three staff at the centre – including Bill Sheargold who he had known for more than 25 years – bravely came to his aid, performing CPR and using a defibrillator to restart his heart.

At an emotional reunion at the centre on Nettlefolds Way, Bilston, Mr Penza came face to face with the three people who saved his life for the first time since the incident on September 17.

Recollection

He said: "Words cannot describe how I feel about these people. I was just so fortunate to have them around at the time.

"What they did has given me real faith in human nature. My recollection was zero from the time I collapsed until a week later, but the staff dealt with the situation. It must have been very traumatic for them"

The drama unfolded at around 7.40pm when Mr Penza collapsed suddenly shortly after he had finished playing squash. Centre manager Bill Sheargold, aged 55, came to his aid and immediately started CPR.

He was joined by lifeguard Laura Guest, 20, who dashed hundreds of metres to get the centre's defibrillator and swimming teacher Chris Peake, 31, who performed rescue breaths and assisted with CPR.

Dave Penza with Duty Officer Bill Sheargold who saved his life

After three shocks from the defibrillator Mr Penza started to breath again. He received further treatment from paramedics who arrived 15 minutes after his initial collapse and was taken to New Cross Hospital.

Mr Sheargold, who used to play in the same squash league as Mr Penza in the late 1980s, said: "There was a real gasp of relief from all of us when Dave started breathing again.

"Thankfully this type of thing does not happen everyday.

"The team were fantastic and I'm grateful everything turned out well."

Recently the trio received a bravery award at a ceremony at Bescot Stadium in recognition of their efforts in saving Mr Penza.

Mr Penza, a self-employed quantity surveyor, is now recovering at home in Wednesfield.

He said: "I'm feeling well in myself but I'm under strict doctors orders not to do anything strenuous until they have seen me again next month.

"The squash is definitely taking a back seat for the time being!"

£10k store boost sets new record

MORE than £10,000 has been raised by a Royal British Legion branch from a collection at a Wombourne supermarket.

Members of the Swindon and Smestow branch of the legion have been collecting at Sainsbury's and broke the store record.

The Remembrance Day collection yielded £11,000 in total and with more still to come from door-to-door collections and those at shops, schools and factories, members hope to beat their previous record total of £14,000 collected back in 2011.

Organisers Terry and Rita Herrington said: "The fantastic display of poppies at the Tower of London and the publicity it has generated has definitely helped us, but also the assistance from the management and staff of Sainsbury's has been invaluable."

Festive treat for soul fans

THERE'S a real festive treat awaiting soul and motown fans with the Christmas soul party at Wombourne Civic Centre on Saturday, December 20.

The Mirwood Enterprise event will feature DJs, including Dave Thomas, spinning all the favourites.

Tickets (£6) are available from Goulds at Sedgley, Hi Lites, Wombourne, Gi Gi's of Kingswinford or call 07793 282891. Tables can be reserved for groups of 10 or more.

FOCUS ON WOMBOURNE

Plea after gas cylinders found dumped on path

GAS cylinders have been found dumped on a bridlepath. Environment officers from Wombourne found the cylinders along a path off the Bridgnorth Road in Wombourne.

Of the 56 cylinders found, three were full of a toxic gas called chlorodifluoromethane, normally used in refrigeration. Damaged valves on all three cylinders prompted fears they could have leaked the gas into the atmosphere.

Inhaling chlorodifluoromethane can irritate the nose, throat and lungs, causing tightness in the chest and difficulty with breathing.

The three cylinders were removed from the scene immediately by officials, who took them to a safe storage area.

Dangerous

Environmental officers from South Staffordshire Council are appealing for information on where the cylinders may have come from and who was responsible for dumping them along the bridle path.

Councillor Roger Lees, cabinet member for public health protection, said: "As a rural district, some think they can fly tip here without being caught.

"This is not the case; we will not tolerate criminals destroying our beautiful area. We are sure many local people feel the same, which is why we are asking

Report by Kirsty Bosley

for their help in finding out who dumped these cylinders.

"We are keen to speak to anyone who knows where they have come from, or anyone who witnessed the cylinders being dumped and can give us some more information.

"Fly tipping damages the countryside, and this instance of fly tipping was particularly dangerous because of the substances involved."

There were more than 350 reports of fly tipping last year in Staffordshire costing tens of thousands of pounds to clean up. A number of people have been fined in separate incidents this year for dumping items such as household waste and an old sofa.

Those with any information on the cylinders should call South Staffordshire Council on 01902 696200.

Information appeal – 56 gas cylinders were illegally dumped on a bridle path off Bridgnorth Road

Refurbed pub is due to reopen

A REFURBISHMENT of an historic Wombourne pub will bring new jobs to the area.

The Vine, in High Street, closed its doors recently and it due to reopen under new management tomorrow.

The historic country pub and restaurant – thought to have originally opened in 1851 – has undergone a series of internal changes, including a refreshed restaurant area.

The Vine will retain its food menu. New general manager Ron Brazier said: "Our guests have come to know and love our unique offer here at The Vine. We're excited to lovingly restore our pub and restaurant areas to complement our great food, great service and great atmosphere."

The Vine will bring eight new jobs to the area including front-of-house staff.

Bazzaar to aid church

WOMBOURNE Methodist Church is to hold its Christmas bazaar at the community centre on Saturday from 10am-noon.

It will be opened by South Staffordshire MP Gavin Williamson. On offer are home-made cakes and jams, hand-made cards and Christmas gifts and nearly-new clothes.

Toys, books and games will be on sale alongside face painting and refreshments. Entry is 30p and proceeds will got to church.

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Chris Watson with colleagues Michelle Turton and Leanne Allen

Water campaigner to check out slums

A WOMAN is travelling over to Uganda this week to visit slums and find out what life is like for communities who do not have clean water.

Chris Watson, an education co-ordinator for South Staffs Water in Walsall, was due to fly out to Africa yesterday with the international development charity WaterAid.

Mrs Watson was chosen to represent the company, based in Green Lane, on the week-long trip along with fundraisers from 13 other water companies.

During her time over there she will be meeting communities to find out what life is like without safe water and toilets and visit WaterAid projects in both urban slums and rural villages to see how the money raised by South Staffs Water employees is making a difference.

Mrs Watson said: "Clean water and toilets are things we take for granted here in the UK but for some people they're a luxury. Just imagine if we couldn't turn on the tap, go to the loo, have a shower, wash our children – they have no choice but to use whatever water they can find. That very water could make them ill, or could cause a fatal sickness.

"WaterAid's projects bring so much more than just safe water and toilets. Access to basic facilities improves health, enables children to stay in education and frees-up time for people to start earning a living.

Inspire

"This trip is a chance for me to see all of this for myself. I hope to use my experiences to inspire even more people to get involved once I get back."

WaterAid estimates that only 37 per cent of the population of Uganda has adequate sanitation and 12,000 children under the age of five die every year as a result.

As part of the trip to the Amuria District of Uganda, Mrs Watson will spend time in a remote village with a local family living without clean water and a toilet to learn first-hand about the daily challenges for survival they face.

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Awards recognise our sporting heroes

Guest speaker Howard Webb, front, fifth from left, poses alongside recipients of awards

SOME of the region's most dedicated and driven athletes and volunteers have been recognised for their sporting efforts at an inspirational ceremony.

Wolverhampton's Olympic medallist, gymnast Kristian Thomas, took the overall Sportsperson of the Year title at the sixth annual Black Country Sport and Physical Activity awards, with 14 winners picking up awards.

The winners, announced at The Light House Media Centre in Wolverhampton, were picked from a shortlist of 39 athletes, coaches and sports clubs drawn from over 100 nominations.

Organised by the Black Country BeActive, this year's event was supported by the Express & Star, the University of Wolverhampton, Radio WM and Wolves Community Trust.

Andy Webb, BeActive Black Country partnership director, said: "We all know the Black Country has a proud sporting heritage, with many world and Olympic medallists coming from the area.

Heritage

"Many of these people, such as Denise Lewis or even Kristian Thomas, started out in clubs around here that have been recognised all over the world as great sporting institutions.

"We will never forget our heritage but now we are seeing the start of a new era we can all be tremendously proud of. We are now not just producing world-class athletes but world-leading athletes, who are setting the targets for others to catch up with.

"If the Black Country actually was a country it would have finished eighth in this year's Commonwealth Games, which shows the wealth of talent we have."

Special guest speaker for the evening was former professional football referee Howard Webb.

Kristian's award topped off a remarkable 12 months in which he also won bronze at the European Gymnastics Championships while Young Sportsperson of the Year Bobbie Butters is hoping that the award she received is just the start of a long and glowing career.

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Moment shop assistant fought off knife raider

THESE dramatic CCTV images show the moment a brave shop assistant fought off a knife-wielding raider during a robbery at a Wolverhampton petrol station.

Shafqat Hussain was working alone in the Murco petrol station in Warstones Road, when two armed men burst through the doors and demanded cash.

One image shows Mr Hussain, who was 24 at the time of the raid on October 22, 2012, fending off one of the raiders who was armed with a knife. He was slashed across the hand and also received injuries to his neck as a result of the attack. Other CCTV footage shows the other robber, who was brandishing a machete, stealing £485 from the till while the scuffle took place.

Getaway

The heavily-disguised robbers, neither of whom have ever been traced, can be seen entering the station's shop separately at 10.23pm. Eight minutes earlier James Jameson, aged 28, of Buckley Road, Warstones is shown on the station forecourt about to enter the store to check the place out. He was found guilty of robbery after a trial at Wolverhampton Crown Court and jailed for six years and three months.

The raiders made their getaway in a white Citroen Saxo which had been parked in a neighbouring road. It was driven by Marlon Watson, also 28, of no fixed address, who admitted the same charge and was locked up for 39 months. The car had been jointly bought by Watson and Jameson three days before the raid.

During the hearing Mr Hussain, who no longer works at the petrol station, was praised for his brave actions.

Dramatic CCTV footage at the petrol station

Carillion seals £800m deal

WOLVERHAMPTON-BASED construction giant Carillion has sealed a deal with Sunderland City Council for a regeneration programme worth up to £800 million.

Following the financial close of the deal work is set to get under way to redevelop key sites across the city over the next 20 years.

Carillion was selected as the preferred bidder to be the strategic partner for Sunderland a year ago, and the terms of the joint venture project – called Siglion – have now been agreed.

The deal represents a major UK project for Carillion, which employs around 600 of its 40,000-strong international workforce in Wolverhampton.

Carillion chief executive, Richard Howson, said: "We are delighted to have achieved financial close on this major innovative programme.

"I believe our success reflects Carillion's ability to offer solutions tailored to the specific needs of our customers."

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Shoppers take lead in helping dogs

Alv Biggs, community champion for Tesco, Hayley Gee with Effie (Sunnyside) and Tesco's Tom Archer

GENEROUS customers at a supermarket donated a trolley full of goodies for homeless pets that are being cared for at a dogs' home.

Shoppers at the Tesco in Owen Road, Willenhall, have been taking part in an ongoing project in aid of the animals at Sunnyside kennels, in Coven.

Their efforts have impressed store bosses who, not to be outdone, have also offered the home a trolley load of tennis balls for the dogs to play with. The store's deputy manager, Tom Archer, has praised shoppers for their generosity. The items have been presented to Sunnyside kennels staff. Mr Archer said: "We have a kennel in the store for the customers to put items into for the home. They just pop tins and packets of food in it.

"The people of Willenhall are very generous when it comes to giving to good causes."

Fines risk for landlords

PRIVATE landlords across the Black Country will face fines of up to £3,000 from December 1 if they fail to check on the immigration status of their new tenants.

The Home Office has launched the 'right to rent' scheme, which is being rolled out gradually, being introduced first across the two areas.

The scheme is part of a drive to identify illegal immigrants and to deny them access to public services they are not entitled to. A new official code of practice for landlords asks that the immigration status of everyone who is to occupy a new tenancy is checked. Only those well known to a landlord will be exempt.

The Home Office is providing a landlord checking service which will respond within two working days to enquiries to confirm the status of those people that have outstanding immigration applications or appeals.

From December 1 landlords will be required to request evidence of a person's identity and citizenship, such as a passport or a biometric residence permit. Copies of the documents will have to be taken and kept for 12 months after the tenancy has ended. Under 18s will be exempt.

The measure is part of a package in the 2014 Immigration Act, which also introduces powers to revoke driving licences of illegal migrants, places a stronger duty on registrars to report sham marriages and streamlines the recovery of fines levied on companies for employing illegal immigrants.

Families happier to spend on Christmas

BIG-HEARTED Wolverhampton people are expected to be among the top 10 biggest spenders in the UK this Christmas, according to a new report.

Research findings suggest city folk plan to spend an average of £502.99 on the festive season, forking out more than £30 per gift and buying an average of 11 presents each.

And the mood is set to be jollier, with four out of five people in Wolverhampton saying they're heading into the festive season feeling more positive about the coming year than at any point in the past decade.

As a result of this upturn, households in Wolverhampton will be spending £146.34 more than last year. This festive cheer across Britain will also give the economy a welcome boost of £13 million. These findings have been revealed today in a new consumer spending index which was conducted by Travelodge.

When it comes to the meal year, households in Wolverhampton are spending £106.11 this year, which is less than last year, when the average Christmas dinner cost £158.13. Nearly half of respondents in Wolverhampton (46 per cent) stated they would be buying their holiday food and drink from a value supermarket.

The index revealed that 52 per cent of people in Wolverhampton will be travelling to spend their holidays with family and friends.

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New bridal store ready to book in

COMMERCIAL FEATURE

AFTER a nine-year stint based within Beatties, House of Fraser, the bridal department has finally decided to go it alone.

Adele Louise Bridal boutique will be opening its doors from November 21 in newly refurbished premises at 3 School Street, Wolverhampton.

Adele Edwards is the owner of Adele Louise Bridal and she has been based within House of Fraser in Wolverhampton with her bridal business, Bella Sposa, but Adele has now taken the decision to open up her own shop.

"Having our own salon means we can offer more flexibility to our customers," explains Adele.

Champagne

Adele Louise Bridal will offer customers late-evening appointments for both fittings and viewings, as well as special events including a VIP weekend which will take place on November 22 and 23.

The weekend will be a ticket-only event, with a champagne reception, canapés, the amazing designer Ian Stuart collection, as well as members of the Ian Stuart team, a solo opera singer, Mrs Cup and Saucer offering vintage afternoon tea, Rock Paper Scissors showcasing its collection of wedding stationery, California Hair Extensions, plus a fashion show.

Bespoke Creations and now Blooms formal hire have agreed to go along too. Tickets are on sale for £5 each. There will be many offers on during the VIP weekend including discounts, veil offers etc.

Visit Adele Louise Bridal at School Street, Wolverhampton

As well as an extensive range of designer wedding gowns, which includes Justin Alexander, Ian Stuart, Mori Lee, Ronald Joyce and Enzoani, Adele Louise Bridal will also showcase a range of bridesmaid gowns, prom dresses and designer evening gowns. It also stocks Richard Design veils and tiaras and Rainbow shoes.

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Brides who prefer VIP treatment will be able to hire the whole shop for the evening to include Fizz and a nibbles from a menu of fabulous food.

For more information contact Adele and the team on 01902 399900 or info@adelelouisebridal.co.uk or you can visit www.adelelouisebridal.co.uk

Delight at opening of the extra classrooms

EXTRA classrooms at a Wolverhampton school have been officially opened.

Four additional classrooms have been added to Bilston CE Primary School to cope with demand for places, after the school roll grew from 210 pupils to 315.

New toilet facilities, breakout spaces and improvements to the playground and car ark were also completed as part of the project, which is part of Wolverhampton City Council's Primary School Expansion Programme.

A further expansion to meet the projected growth in pupil numbers across the city is proposed next year to bring the total number of pupils at the Albany Crescent school to 420.

By Simon Stone

Improve

Headteacher Gary Gentle said: "Children, staff and governors of the school are delighted with the improved accommodation and facilities which we now enjoy. It will help in our aim to improve academic standards for all our children and provide the best possible education we can.

"As a faith school, serving a multi-cultural community, we take pride in promoting values which we feel prepare our children to live in modern day Britain." Mr Gentle said they were delighted to welcome The Right Rev Clive Gregory, Bishop of Wolverhampton, to officially open the new school buildings.

The council's cabinet member for schools, skills and learning, Councillor Phil Page, said the expansion programme is an excellent scheme, and he is delighted that pupils and teachers at the Bilston school are enjoying their new facilities.

Councillor Page said: "We are working hard to provide the best possible learning environments for our young people – learning environments which both meet the requirements of pupils and teachers."

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Classy finish as charity trek teacher checks in

STUDENTS and staff cheered as teacher Pete Escritt finished his mammoth bike ride from Porthmadog to Wolverhampton to raise money for a children's residential centre.

Mr Escritt was joined by Commonwealth gold medallist Hugh Porter and Colton Hills Community School headteacher Alberto Otero for the final leg of his 110-mile journey.

Mr Escritt, who teaches maths at the school in Jeremy Road, Wolverhampton, was also greeted by Olympic gold swimmer Anita Lonsbrough and former England women's cricket captain Rachael Heyhoe-Flint as he made it past the finishing line.

Reverse

Mr Escritt,who is 57, had cycled his way from the Gelliwig residential centre in the Welsh town, a reverse route of the journey he did 25 years ago when Gelliwig was first opened.

He said: "It was easier now than it was in 1989. I've done far more cycling in the years since."

Mr Porter and Mr Otero joined him for the final part of the journey, meeting him in Tong, near Albrighton.

Travel was made all the more difficult by headwinds which blew against Mr Escritt across the Welsh mountains.

"It was very misty, very wet, but I never let it put me off," he added.

Mr Porter said he was in awe of Pete's fitness.

"It was a sterling effort, especially in those conditions, and I was happy to be on the team for that last hour."

Gelliwig was opened in 1989 in memory of Graham Birch and John Thompson, two Wolverhampton teachers who died of heart attacks within weeks of one another.

Welcome back for Hugh Porter, Pete Escott and Alberto Otero

Post office saved from axe

WILLENHALL'S main post office has been saved from the axe.

Post Office bosses announced that they had dropped the proposals for the John Street branch, which has faced an uncertain future for almost two years. It will instead be modernised, with work taking place next year.

Plans to franchise 70 crown post offices were unveiled last year in a bid to help the service cope with £40 million-a-year losses. Post Office bosses have announced they have been unable to find a suitable partner for the Willenhall branch and have stopped their search.

Bosses said the branch will remain under Post Office management and will be modernised.

It will join more than 3,500 branches across the UK that have already been modernised, with many offering extended opening hours.

The Post Office is currently making a multi-million pound investment programme across its branch network.

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Fitting way to train for jobs

SPORTS students from City of Wolverhampton College are taking on the role of training providers, helping jobseekers complete an employability programme.

The college's Level 3 Personal Training students are passing their knowledge on to jobseekers in a new training programme called FIT2succeed, a 10-week employability programme run in partnership with the Jobcentre.

The programme, in which students gain their Fitness Instructor Level 2 Certificate, is designed to help unemployed people gain the skills they need to find work in the fitness industry.

They will be inducted into a gym environment, with personal training students introducing kit, training methods, and health and safety protocol.

How support is helping to cut dependence on alcohol

AROUND a third of criminals receiving treatment for alcohol dependence in Staffordshire and the West Midlands have been become abstinent, it has been claimed.

Meanwhile, screening of service users suggests that possible alcohol dependence fell from over 90 per cent at the start of treatment, to under 40 per cent at the end.

Alcohol Treatment Requirements, which can form part of a community sentence handed out by courts, are for criminals who are dependent on alcohol. ATRs offer specialist treatment to reduce offenders' alcohol intake to safe limits, or become abstinent from alcohol.

According to the charity Drinkaware: "The NHS estimates that around nine per cent of men in the UK and four per cent of women show some signs of alcohol dependence.

"This means that drinking alcohol becomes an important, or sometimes the most important, factor in their life and they feel unable to function without it. Psychological dependence can include sharing a bottle of wine with your partner most nights of the week, or always going for a few pints after work to unwind. Physical dependence is when the body shows withdrawal symptoms, such as sweating, shaking, nausea, when your blood alcohol levels fall."

Probation services for low to medium risk criminals in Staffordshire & West Midlands are run by the SWM Community Rehabilitation Company. It works with a range of partner agencies to deliver interventions like ATRs and treatment for other drug dependency.

During 2012-13, 279 offenders in Staffordshire and the West Midlands were subject to an ATR.

Three in one for war play

A WOLVERHAMPTON amateur dramatic group is adding its take to the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War.

St Gregory's Drama Group is marking the occasion with a production of three one-act plays under the collective title of We Will Remember Them. They provide a glimpse into the effects of this terrible time from different perspectives.

The production will be performed at St Patrick's Church Hall, Wolverhampton Road, Wednesfield close to New Cross Hospital from next Thursday to Saturday. Tickets cost £5 or £4 with concessions.

To book tickets ring either 01543 371103 or 07412 545673 or email stgregs-dramagroup@yahoo.co.uk

When music was the food of love

Golden celebration for Roger and Catherine Bennion

THEIR love affair began in 1959 when they shared their first dance at the Civic Hall to the music of Latin American singer Edmundo Ross.

Now 55 years later Roger, 75, and Catherine Bennion , 73, are celebrating half a century of marriage.

"It's been a happy marriage," said Mrs Bennion. She said she was not sure what the secret to their long and happy marriage was but added: "We're like chalk and cheese in a lot of things."

The pair were introduced to each other through Roger's mother and fast forward five years they tied the knot on October 17, 1964, at Holy Trinity Church in Heath Town, Wolverhampton.

Describing themselves as 'big Wolves supporters,' some of the couple's fondest memories include cheering on the Wanderers at football matches.

The born and bred Wolverhampton couple also enjoyed watching speedway and boxing matches.

Before retiring Roger worked as a drawing office manager at ECC and Catherine worked for social services.

Burden of care is falling on women

WOMEN in the West Midlands are pushing themselves to breaking point by shouldering the burden of care for relatives because of feelings of duty and guilt, according to new figures.

New research from Bupa shows that a 'sense of duty' is causing women to delay important decisions about care for older relatives, resulting in a knock-on effect on their relationships and even their own health.

Nearly two thirds (64 per cent) of women in the West Midlands would put off thinking about a care home as they feel it is 'their duty' to look after their family, yet one in three (33 per cent) say that caring for relatives has led to a strain in their relationship.

It means that care decisions are being left to the last minute and women in the West Midlands are pushing themselves to breaking point with the burden of care, with one third (33 per cent) saying it has hit their own health.

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Childhood sweethearts enjoy golden moment

Cheers! Bob and June Tolley celebrate their golden wedding at their home in Stafford Road, Wolverhampton

THEY were childhood sweethearts who met at a family wedding. Now Wolverhampton couple Bob and June Tolley have celebrated 50 years of marriage.

Mr Tolley, 73 and his 71-year-old wife held a party at the Pavilion restaurant with more than 150 friends and relations from across the country.

The couple, of Stafford Road in Oxley, first met when they attended a family wedding, as Bob's brother, Reg, married June's cousin, Joyce.

June remembers: "It was a bit of a coincidence really. He was 16 and I was 14. We talked a bit, but we didn't start going out straight away."

Two years later the couple met again at Joyce's 21st birthday party. Bob said: "We started doing things together and we just enjoyed being in each other's company. We were courting for three years and then we got engaged."

They have a daughter, Jayne, 45, and two grandchildren, Jake, 24, and Tonia, 21. The couple plan to go on holiday to Cornwall in the summer – to the spot where they honeymooned.

On their wedding day

Third meet under belt for the WI

Bewdley WI

ON October 13 the second meeting was held and more than 60 women attended but at least half of them had not attended the first meeting.

The intent for this meeting was to get the structure in place and find a name for the WI.

After a vote Bewdley WI gained the most so Bewdley it is.

After the business had been carried out the potential members were offered a selection of craft activities to try while they enjoyed tea, coffee and cakes.

There was silk scarf painting, an easy starter suitable for the Christmas meal, decorating a serviette for Christmas, and felt finger puppets.

The meeting closed having put in place a small starter committee to get the proceedings under way. Brenda Wright and Cheryl Hatton will share the role of President and Sue Humphries will put together a programme for the first few months of 2015.

The third meeting was held on November 3.

The meeting began with a welcome letter from the National Federation Chairman, Janice Langley which was read out by Brenda and Cheryl. The speaker for the meeting was Diana Campbell who has had an incredibly interesting career in television.

There are now 28 paid up members who are planning their Christmas meeting on December 1. To take part call 01905 641658 or email fiona@wfwi.org.uk.

Members enjoy the Harvest luncheon

West Midlands Federation

WEST Midlands Federation hosted a Harvest luncheon for all guild members on Wednesday October 8 at Wollaston Village Hall.

The meal was prepared and served by federation committee members.

Chairman Margaret Tew opened proceedings by welcoming the guests.

Following a very enjoyable meal the Chairman introduced the entertainment for the afternoon. Pete Dunn, Marylyn and Brian, aka The Jazzyatrics performed songs to suit all tastes. Chairman Margaret Tew gave a vote of thanks to the group.

The raffle was then drawn and six lucky members won prizes.

Hospitality secretary Betty Davis gave a vote of thanks to the federation committee for all their hard work and for helping to make the Occasion a huge success.

The final event of 2014 will be the Christmas celebration in St Thomas' Church, Stourbridge on December 13. Programmes are now availableat the Church.

Getting ready to enjoy festivities

Kingswinford TG

THE Guild met on November 10 in the Community Centre, High Street.

Following the usual business of the minutes a lively discussion followed on the reason for affiliation fees to be raised. It was agreed our comments should be forwarded to the Federation Committee.

The date and time of the Federation Carol Service/Celebration was announced again and members were urged to attend as it gives the festivities such a good start. It is open to non-members.

Final arrangements were made for the Christmas luncheon at the Lodge, those requiring a lift were asked to make this known.

A request was made for a volunteer to take Sylvia Taylor's place on the centre's management committee as Sylvia had other commitments. Barbara White came forward.

On November 28 The Wednesday Club will go shopping at Touchwood. The December meeting will be a Knit & Natter session with cheese and wine.

The Scrabble group will meet on November 27 and December 11.

The ramblers will not ramble in December .

John Mobberly came to complete his Talk Do You Remember the 1940s?The evening was very much enjoyed and he was thanked on our behalf by Chris Moy. Josie smith was thanked for the floral arrangement of poppies.

Enid Fennell won the raffle prize.

Sign of a good talk on pubs

Black Country Society K-ford Branch

THE October meeting was held in St Mary's Church Hall, Kingswinford, when the speaker was Anthony Collis with his talk about Pub signs of the Black Country.

His talk with feedback was much enjoyed by members and friends.

The Christmas meeting will be on the second Wednesday of the month, not the third. The date therefore is December 10 when entertainment will take place. Wine and mince pies will be served at the end.

Talks are open to members, friends and non-members with a small charge to cover expenses of £1 and £1.50 respectively.

All meetings take place in the Church Centre, The Village, Kingswinford, at 7.45pm.

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Nine out of 10 are now happy with 111 service

By Daniel Wainwright

NINE out of 10 patients who used the non-emergency NHS helpline were satisfied with it since it was handed over to West Midlands Ambulance Service, a report on the past years has shown.

During the previous year WMAS has received in the region of 850,000 calls into the service.

People can call 111 for advice when seeking help with non-emergency and out-of-hours health matters 24 hours a day.

Turnaround

It is a marked turnaround from when it was first introduced in April 2013, replacing the former NHS Direct, and call centres run by different providers in different counties were struggling to cope.

The non emergency helpline was broken up into 46 cut-price contracts and NHS Direct itself was left in deficit and forced to close. The ambulance service took it over in the West Midlands in November 2013.

Figures from a patient survey show 91.3 per cent were satisfied with the service received, 77.1 per cent of which were very satisfied.

Just 3.4 per cent claimed to dissatisfied.

There were also 88.8 per cent of users who said they were likely to recommend the service.

The service increased staffing levels and training.

Daren Fradgley, NHS 111 West Midlands director, said: "A considerable amount of work has gone into stabilising and developing the service over the last 12 months.

"There is no doubt that the public of the West Midlands now have access to one of the best quality and performing NHS 111 services in the country.

"This is also clear to see in the feedback we are getting from the patients.

"I would also like to thank the entire team whose work has not only made this possible but also had such a positive impact on the public we serve.." he added.

"We are proud of what we achieved during the last year but we will not be resting on our laurels.

"We will continue to improve the service we offer to ensure it is the best it possibly can be, and patients continue to receive the highest possible level of care."

Benefits

Rachael Ellis, 111 lead commissioner West Midlands, said: "Sandwell and West Birmingham Clinical Commissioning Group is pleased to report that the service is stable and that call volumes are increasing as patients realise the benefits of the service which delivers quick, responsive advice and assistance.

"We are seeing month on month growth in the service."

Domestic abuse charity set to launch toy plea

A CHARITY has asked people to help make the festive season special for those affected by domestic violence.

The Haven Wolverhampton, which has been supporting women and children who have experienced abuse at home for more than 40 years, is preparing to launch its annual appeal.

Shows

Staff are asking people to buy an extra toy for children or make cash donations to assist with taking them to pantomimes and festive shows.

The toy appeal runs from December 1-19.

Hayley Edwards, marketing and publicity officer, said "Being in refuge during Christmas is a difficult and traumatic time for children. We are very grateful for the support we receive through donations from the community and with these we aim to make it more of an enjoyable experience by allowing the children the same opportunities as others, to enjoy the festive period.

"We hope people in and around Wolverhampton will be as generous as they have been in previous years.

"Even a small donation could help to make Christmas that bit brighter for these children."

People can donate by calling 01902 572126 or visiting 103 Salop Street between 9am-3.30pm

Alternatively, people can donate online through www.bit.ly/thehavenwishlist or www.bit.ly/thehavenbiggive

Mystery call led to poppy display aid

Accounts manager Barbara Fellowes and production foreman Stan Walters produced the steel stems

IT started with a call out the blue to see if a Darlaston firm could provide a large quantity of wire.

But it ended with the company helping create the breath-taking display of almost 900,000 poppies for the Tower of London tribute to fallen soldiers.

Barnfather Wire (Midlands) Ltd has revealed it created the wire stems for the flowers, which have been seen by around five million people from across the world.

Bosses were initially approached by a third party over whether they could supply steel wire which was cut to length this spring but were given no details about the job.

After agreeing they could fulfil the £75,000 contract it emerged the company in Willenhall Road was going to be creating the stems for 888,246 ceramic poppies, which were to be attached separately.

Staff have spoken of their pride at being part of the spectacular display, which marks the 100th anniversary of the First World War.

Dairy farmers 'facing squeeze in short term'

DAIRY farmers are facing a year-long squeeze on margins as the effect of the Russian ban on EU imports begins to bite, a milk testing company near Wolverhampton has warned.

National Milk Records, which has its major laboratory at Four Ashes, says that the next 12 months will see commodity prices slump, putting fresh pressure on already hard-hit farmers.

While the company said the longer-term forecast was rosier, it leaves producers looking at a year of struggle during 2015.

Chairman Philip Kirkham said: "Lower global commodity prices and the Russian ban on EU dairy products are driving the price of dairy products down and a 12 month squeeze on margins is forecast for UK dairy farmers and processors alike.

"Most UK farmers can look through this lean period, as the overall medium term forecast for dairying is more positive. This short term squeeze will demand efficiency of milk production and processing and NMR believes it has the services required to help deliver these efficiencies."

The company said that conditions had been good for producers between April and September, but that the short-term outlook was "far tighter".

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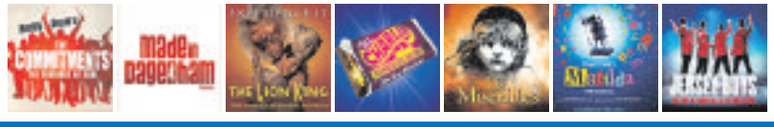

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The lorry on CCTV after being driven down the slip road

Cars slip past the lorry at Junction T5 near Brownhills

The vehicle is seen crossing into the M6 Toll traffic

The juggernaut on its way after the U-turn manoeuvre

Ban for HGV driver in U-turn on M6 Toll

A LORRY driver who did a U-turn on the M6 Toll during rush hour after driving down the slip road the wrong way has been handed a suspended prison sentence.

Footage of Lithuanian Leonid Papachin shows him going the wrong way down the slip road at junction T5 at Shenstone near Lichfield.

When he realised his mistake he pulled onto the hard shoulder but then tried to rectify it by performing the U-turn into the path of three lanes of on-coming traffic.

CCTV then shows Papachin's 40+ ton truck complete the U-turn and then drive off in the right direction. Motorway police, alerted by CCTV controllers, stopped the lorry a short time later, where the driver was arrested and charged with dangerous driving.

Papachin, aged 51, was remanded in custody and appeared at Cannock Magistrates Court where he was sentenced to 15 weeks in prison, suspended for two years and ordered to pay £85 costs. He was also disqualified from driving for 18 months after which he will be required to pass an extended test of competence.

Motorway patrol manager, Chief Inspector Jed White, said: "On this occasion the driver should have contacted motorway police immediately to help him manoeuvre safely.

"We will always prosecute offenders and, as this case demonstrates, the penalties can be quite severe. I hope that it serves as a deterrent to anyone who thinks they can put other motorists in jeopardy by ignoring motorway regulations." The drama happened at 5.30pm on October 23.

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Experience some of the world's most breathtaking alpine scenery whilst staying in the charming village of Seefeld – a perfect spot from which to explore the varied highlights of the Tyrol.

Just a short drive away is the Tyrolean capital of Innsbruck where a guided tour of this delightful city will introduce some of the historic architecture. See the famous Golden Roof, St Jakob's cathedral and the former Imperial Palace.

Head back in time, during the journey to Jenbach, on the Achenseebahn narrow gauge railway as it winds its way into the hills from the Inn Valley up to the Achensee Lake. The coal-fired locomotives are amongst the world's oldest and use rack assistance to surmount the steep gradient. A visit is then made to the historic village of Rattenburg, the Tyrols smallest municipality, with its medieval stone buildings and narrow streets.

A drive into nearby Bavaria leads to one of Germany's most famous monuments – Neuschwanstein Castle, with its impressive architecture and an inspiration for so many stories, where there is a guided tour.

The spa town of Merano, with its Belle Époque buildings and fine gardens set between the high mountain peaks, along with the regions capital Bolzano, which boasts many castles and fortified buildings, a historic centre and gothic cathedral, are both on the itinerary of the Italian Tyrol tour.

PRICE INCLUDES

- Return flights
- Seven nights half-board accommodation
- Guided sightseeing tour of Innsbruck
- Entrance and guided tour of Stams Monastery and Neuschwanstein Castle
- Journey on the Aachensee Cog Steam Railway
- Tour of the Italian Tyrol visiting Bolzano and Merano
- Visit to Rattenburg
- See the Oetz valley glaciers
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Riviera Travel (ABTA V4744, ATOL 3430)

Windsor Castle
and Treasures from the Royal Archive

Two days departing January 21

PRICE FROM £119

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation
- Visit to Windsor Castle and Treasures from the Royal Archives exhibition
- Visit to St Albans
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

Florimania
at Hampton Court Palace

Two days departing March 14

PRICE FROM £109

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation
- Entrance to Hampton Court Palace and gardens for Florimania
- Visit to Windsor
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

Bath and Oxford
Buy one get one free

Two days departing March 22

PRICE FROM £155

- Return coach travel
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation
- Visit to Oxford
- Visit to Bath
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

Jersey
For single travellers

Five days departing March 23

PRICE FROM £349

- Return flights
- Four nights half-board accommodation
- Return airport to hotel transfers in Jersey
- Welcome drink on arrival
- Half day island tour
- Dinner dance with entertainment
- No single room supplement

Organised by Modern Hotels (ABTA V3101, ATOL 0752)

Emmerdale Country
and the Best of Yorkshire

Three days departing May 1, Jun 19, Sep 25

PRICE FROM £159

- Return coach travel
- Two nights half-board accommodation
- Tours of Emmerdale and the Yorkshire Dales
- Short tour of Last of the Summer Wine country
- Visit to Holmfirth
- Visit to York
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Promotions (ABTA V787X)

The Crown Jewels
and Thames Dinner Cruise

Two days departing May 17 and Sept 20

PRICE FROM £169

- Return coach travel
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation
- Entrance to the Tower of London including the Crown Jewels exhibition
- Evening cruise on the River Thames including a hot two-course buffet dinner with a glass of wine
- Free time in London
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Promotions (ABTA V787X)

Strawberry Fields
Penny Lane and the Cavern Club

Three days departing May 29 and Sep 19

PRICE FROM £179

- Return coach travel
- Two nights half-board accommodation
- Beatles coach tour and entrance to the Cavern Club
- Journey on the Ferry 'cross the Mersey
- Free time in Liverpool
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Promotions (ABTA V787X)

In Search of the Northern Lights

Evening excursion departing January 21, February 16 and 18

PRICE FROM £199.95

- Pre-flight illustrated presentation by expert astronomers
- Flight in search of the Northern Lights of 3-3 3/4 hours
- Services of the astronomers on board
- Light refreshments on board
- Services of a tour manager

Organised by Omega Holidays (ABTA V4782, ATOL 6081)

Carcasonne,
Avignon and Provence

Six days various departure dates 2015

PRICE FROM £449

- Return flights
- Five nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- Guided walking tour and time to explore Carcassonne
- Full day visit to Avignon and the Roman Pont du Gard
- Canal du Midi cruise
- All coaching in France
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Air Holidays (ABTA V7812, ATOL 2325)

Krakow

Four days various departure dates 2015

PRICE FROM £419

- Return flights
- Three nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- Guided walking sightseeing tour of Krakow
- Visit to Wawel, the castle district
- Visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau (included but optional)
- Optional tour of the Salt Mines
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Riviera Travel (ABTA V4744, ATOL 3430)

Lake Garda
Venice and Verona

Eight days various departure dates 2015

PRICE FROM £629

- Return flights
- Seven nights half-board accommodation
- Tour of Lake Garda
- Guided sightseeing tours of Venice and Verona
- Tour of the Dolomites (with an optional cable car ride payable locally)
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Riviera Travel (ABTA V4744, ATOL 3430)

Colvin is manic and marvellous

Gerry Colvin Band
Newhampton Folk Club

GERRY Colvin is like 50s skiffle icon Lonnie Donegan spliced with manic comedian Lee Evans.

Along with a great talent for music and an unstoppable string of stories and observations it makes him a great entertainer with a personality almost too big for the packed upper room of the Newhampton Inn, Whitmore Reans, Wolverhampton.

Colvin is an engaging raconteur and spent much of the time between his enthralling songs claiming he would not do the very thing he was doing, talking.

He was joined on stage by three excellent musicians Lyndon Webb on guitar, Trish Keelan on accordion and Jerome Davies on double bass. Colvin, who has been around for years and is lauded on both sides of the Atlantic, straddles the folk, country, jazz and Americana genres. His versatility is seemingly endless moving from folk songs such as Alcohol and Me to the Latin beat of South American Dream.

At times Colvin, originally from Barrow in Furness, is pure theatre however he does get serious too but without getting heavy with songs such The House of the Setting Sun which is about mental illness. One thing is for certain with Colvin, you get your money's worth.

Danny Farragher

REVIEWS

MJ show was a real live Thriller

Thriller Live,
Grand Theatre

WHAT a thriller! When it comes to Michael Jackson music, I am sure the packed Grand Theatre would agree, you just can't beat it.

High energy, amazing voices and brilliant choreography this show had everything. The cast gave their all as they took us through the legendary journey that was Michael Jackson's life.

The lead vocalists were excellent, none more than Samantha Johnson, whose powerful voice filled the auditorium, and Alex Buchanan with his version of She's Out of My Life.

All the favourites were there, I'll Be There, Blame It On The Boogie, Dangerous, Black or White and of course Thriller with particularly good versions of They Don't Care About Us, Earth Song and Smooth Criminal.

With little encouragement needed the audience joined in some of the songs and they did not need a second call before they were on their feet. A fantastic show and not to be missed.

Sue Attwater

Send in the clowns — a scene from the strange and surreal Slava's Snowshow

Slava's indoor snowstorm blasts the senses in this unique show

Slava's Snowshow,
Birmingham Hippodrome

BLIZZARD conditions hit Birmingham when this wonderfully weird show returned to the Hippodrome, as it marked its 21st year on tour of the world. To describe this production as a clown show with a wintery theme is to sell it short. It is more Salvador Dali that Billy Smart.

Russian clown Slava Polunin, who no longer performs in the show, has devised a unique spectacle. He has done for clowning what Cirque du Soleil did for circus as a whole but with a ripple of grim humour. It starts with a clown with his head in a noose.

The combination of dream imagery, haunting music and slow-burning comedy is punctuated by showstopping set-pieces. These include a cobweb that envelopes the audience and an indoor snowstorm that remains one of the most sensational moments of stagecraft in modern theatre.

The show ends with giant bouncing balls being released into the auditorium. The clowns watch the audience become children, whatever their age, playing in Britain's biggest ballpit. The only people left unhappy must be the Hippodrome's cleaners, faced with mounds of paper 'snow' to clean up.

Leon Burakowski

Get a bucketful of the JCB boys live

CD reviews by Danny Farragher

Live (@ The Borderline)
Nizlopi

IN spite of the infamous email in which Luke Concannon declared Nizlopi were no more the Leamington Spa lads are back with their first major tour in six years and of course a live album.

It seems the JCB duo is back with a vengeance complete with John Parker's beatbox and double bass.

On the album they straddle, folk, indie, acoustic and hip hop styles to explore relationships, girlfriends and questionable sexualities, and there is of course their massive hit JCB.

The first track, I'm Alive Again, from their 2008 album Make It happen, introduces you to Concannon's distinctive voice and Part of Me sees the rapper expressing feelings many will connect with.

Nizlopi Live (@ The Borderline) is available now through the band's website and on digital download.

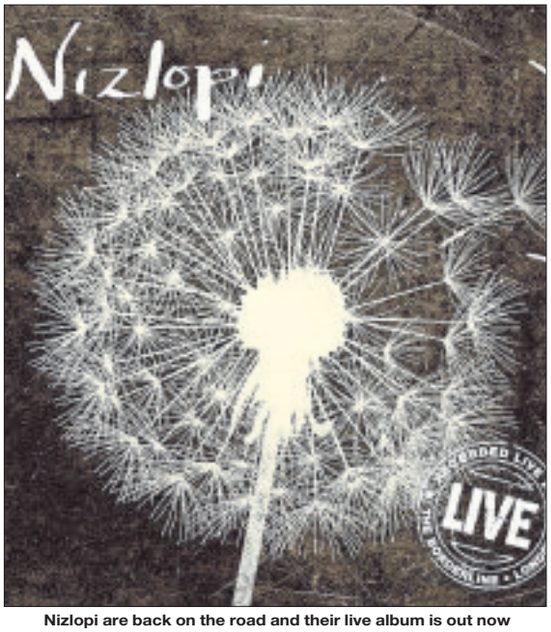
The Ballad Beyond
Jez Lowe

This is the first album from mellow-voiced Geordie Jez Lowe for four years and the songs span nearly 10 years in the making.

This collection of thoughtful and witty songs was mostly written for the BBC R2 Radio Ballads programmes.

The album is in five categories Great and Goods, Tracks and Field, Writes and Wrongs, Billys and Tommys and finally Buffs and Blues. The headings give an insight into the inspirations behind the songs.

Lowe is a master storyteller and through song he takes the listener into a wide range of thoughtful and thought-provoking tales and observations. From the barbed lyrics of Berlin 36 and Names to the light-hearted memories of childhood fairgrounds in Bother at the Hoppins and the cheeky lyrics of The Morpeth Olympics.



Nizlopi are back on the road and their live album is out now

The Ballad Beyond is on the Tantobie Label and released November 17. 9/10

Wildest Dreams
Matt Woosey

By his own admission Woosey, originally from Malvern, Worcs is spreading his wings a little, offering more than the blues he is respected for.

At times Woosey's voice has a Tom Waits sort of depth to it but slightly less gritty and dirty sounding and occasionally it has the sneering tone of Billy Idol.

Same Old Blues does exactly what is says on the tin but adds a Springsteen-style rock rift. The blues step up another level for I've Seen the Bottom with the thumping beat opening.

And guitar virtuoso Woosey eases things up a little with Nowhere Is home as his voice takes on an almost lazy feeling.

star extra TRAVEL

For brochures please call the Promotions Team on (01902) 319999 (Mon to Fri, 9am to 5pm) or go to expressandstar.com/starextratravel

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Bruges by Eurostar

Four days various departure dates 2015

PRICE FROM £289

There are few places left where you can totally switch off for a few days from the pressures of modern day living than Bruges. Its beauty and tranquillity is outstanding and the atmosphere of this perfectly preserved medieval town is totally unique.

Whether it's a stroll by one of the canals, sipping a coffee in the Old Market Square with the chimes ringing out from the belfry, or perhaps a gentle trip around the town by horse and carriage. Its serenity will captivate and it has something for all tastes.

A guided walk of this beautiful town will really show off its charm perfectly. Its streets are crammed with fascination and yet is so compact that the walking tour emphasises the main sites and attractions beautifully.

Climb the 366 steps of the belfry tower for breathtaking views, see the City Hall, the old Law Courts and the Basilica of the Holy Blood in which is housed some of Jesus' blood. Another must is the Notre Dame Church where Michelangelo's beautiful Madonna and Child, carved in pure white marble, is kept.

A chance to visit Ypres, centre of British activity in Belgium during the war and home to the Menin Gate, the famous memorial to the missing soldiers is offered to those that are interested. This also includes a visit to Hill 62, more commonly known as Sanctuary Wood, to see some preserved trenches.

And of course, Bruges's chocolates are known throughout the world and a visit to an establishment which still makes them by traditional methods is included to demonstrate this delicious craft.

PRICE INCLUDES
- Return standard class seat on Eurostar
- Return rail connection to London
- Return coach transfer overseas
- Three nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- Guided walking tour of Bruges
- Visit to Ypres and a tour of the Battlefields of WW1
- Chocolate making demonstration
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Certain entrance fees payable locally
Organised by RivieraTravel (ABTA V4744)

Christmas in Bournemouth

Five days departing December 23

PRICE FROM £399

- Return coach travel
- Four nights half-board accommodation
- Traditional Christmas Lunch on Christmas Day
- Entertainment programme
- Visits to Salisbury, Poole, Swanage and Winchester
- Tour of The New Forest National Park
- Free time in Bournemouth
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

New Year in Chester and Liverpool

Three days departing December 30

PRICE FROM £179

- Return coach travel
- Two nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- Three course evening meal on day one
- New Year's Eve Gala dinner and dancing
- Visits to Liverpool and Chester
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

New Year London Theatre

Three days departing December 30

PRICE FROM £249.95

- Return coach travel
- Two nights bed and breakfast accommodation at an outer London hotel
- Dinner and after dinner disco in the hotel on New Year's Eve
- Standard priced ticket for the evening performance of a choice of West End Shows on December 30 with coach transfer (ticket upgrades offered)
- Services of a coach driver/tour representative
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Omega Short Breaks (ABTA Y5914)

Jersey

Four to eight days
Departures January to December 2015

PRICE FROM £285

- Return flights
- Bed and breakfast accommodation at the three-star Mayfair or Metropole hotel in St Helier
- Return airport to hotel transfers in Jersey
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Special offers for bookings made before March 31- see brochure for details

Organised by Modern Hotels (ABTA V3101, ATOL 0752)

Butterflies and Orchids

Two days departing March 6

PRICE FROM £125

- Return coach travel
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation
- Visit to the Royal Botanical Kew Gardens
- Visit to RHS Wisley gardens
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability – supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Promotions (ABTA V787X)

Classical Spectacular at the Royal Albert Hall

Two days departing March 22

PRICE FROM £129

- Return coach travel
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation
- Choir ticket for the Classical Spectacular concert (upgrades offered)
- Sightseeing tour of London
- Free time in London
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Promotions (ABTA V787X)

Saturday Night Theatre by rail

Two days various departure dates

PRICE FROM £149.95

- Return standard class rail travel to London (upgrade offered)
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation at a choice of four-star London hotels
- Ticket for the Saturday evening performance of a West End show of your choice
- Free time in London
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Please note the "from" price and price bands vary for each show
Organised by Omega Events (ABTA Y590X)

Welsh Association of Male Voice Choirs at the Royal Albert Hall

Two days departing May 9

PRICE FROM £129

- Return coach travel
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation in an outer London hotel
- Circle seat for the concert (upgrades offered)
- Sightseeing tour of London
- Free time in London
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Promotions (ABTA V787X)

Loire Valley and Monet's Garden by Eurostar

Six days various departures dates 2015

PRICE FROM £559

- Return standard class seat on Eurostar
- Return rail connection to London
- Return coach transfer overseas
- Five nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- Three dinners
- Visits to Claude Monet's house and garden; Chartres; Tours; Amboise and Leonardo da Vinci's house
- Explore the châteaux at Chinon, Chenonceau, Villandry and Fontainebleau
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Certain entrance fees payable locally
Organised by RivieraTravel (ABTA V4744)

Venice Classic and undiscovered

Five days various departure dates 2015

PRICE FROM £499

- Return flights
- Four nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- Walking tour of Venice
- Timed entrance to St Mark's Cathedral
- Entrance to the Doge's Palace
- Walking tour of undiscovered Venice
- Boat tour to Murano and glass making demonstration
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by RivieraTravel (ABTA V4744, ATOL 3430)

Hidden Portugal

Eight days various departure dates 2015

PRICE FROM £559

- Return flights
- Seven nights four-star half-board accommodation
- Full day visit to Oporto and a port wine lodge
- Guided visits to Viana do Castelo and Valenca do Minho
- Visit to Ponte de Lima
- Explore the Vinho Verde vineyards
- Journey through Peneda Gêres National Park
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Air Holidays (ABTA V7812, ATOL 2325)

Christmas in Wolverhampton

An eight page **Express & Star** commercial guide packed with festive ideas

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Christmas in Wolverhampton

Festive fun for all at Wulfrun Shopping Centre

There is fun for the whole family at

Ho, ho, ho! Staff are counting down to Christmas at Wulfrun Shopping Centre, Wolverhampton, with a series of fun, festive events for the family.

Over four Saturdays, they will be hosting some of the country's best entertainers between 11am and 3pm that promise to keep busy shoppers and little ones amused – so make sure you have a breather to enjoy a giggle or two.

Kicking off the festive events are Hugh Fern and Lee Whittingstall, who guarantee laughs on November 22 with their unique Christmas cookery demonstrations. Stuck for ideas on what to do with your leftovers? Don't ask these two 'chefs': their speciality is sprout smoothie!

On November 29, Mother Christmas will be travelling through the Wulfrun, looking for the perfect reindeer to lead her sleigh so that she can deliver her gifts. Watch out for Sami the elf – he'll be looking for the best reindeer specimens from among the shoppers. You have been warned.

Dance

There will be grannies with attitude on December 6 when the Granny Turismo Chrismo show comes to Wulfrun.

Marge and Doris are the quirky twosome whose outrageously funny shopping trolley dance routines will have you in stitches (let's hope they lay off the Christmas sherry before they begin).

Have you been naughty or nice? There's only one way to find out: two cheeky giant elves will be visiting on December 13 and they'll be walking through the shopping centre, deciding if you deserve a visit from the big man himself on Christmas Eve! There's still time to get your name on the good list, you know.

With more than 40 high street stores, including Poundland, Pandora, Argos, Peacocks and The Fragrance Shop, Wulfrun Shopping Centre is the perfect place to do your Christmas shopping.

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CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT at the WULFRUN SHOPPING CENTRE, WOLVERHAMPTON
The Christmas Cottage Show
Sami Sleigh
Granny Turismo Chrismo!
Meet the Giant Elves
The Christmas Cottage Show
Saturday 22nd November 2014 11am - 3pm
Sami Sleigh
Saturday 29th November 2014 11am - 3pm
Granny Turismo Christmo!
Saturday 6th December 2014 11am - 3pm
Meet the Giant Elves
Saturday 13th December 2014 11am - 3pm
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Join the cast of Cinderella at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre for a magical adventure in panto-land

It's pantotime

Get your magic wand at the ready, wave it and wish for the most spectacular family pantomime this Christmas.

The highlight of Wolverhampton's festive calendar once again promises all the tradition, fun and excitement that audiences enjoy year after year.

From the same producers as last year's Sleeping Beauty, Qdos Entertainment continue to cast a spectacular star line-up.

For the first time ever, comedian, entertainer and pantomime legend Julian Clary headlines the Wolverhampton pantomime to play Dandini in Cinderella.

Julian, who won Celebrity Big Brother in 2012, is one of pantomime's most glamorous stars and it's fitting that he is cast in Cinderella, the production that is set to be one of the most lavish pantomimes in current years.

He is joined on stage by Joe Tracini (Hollyoaks' Dennis) as the lovable Buttons.

X Factor favourite and local lady Niki Evans returns by popular demand, with her powerful vocals and stunning costumes – this Fairy Godmother is sure to be a dream come true.

Featuring magnificent scenery, a hilarious script and an all-star cast this classic tale of rags to riches will have you enchanted.

For tickets call the Box Office on 01902 42 92 12 or book online at www.grandtheatre.co.uk

Julian Clary is the star of Cinderella

Lights go on – in and around city

Crowds will gather to celebrate the switching on of Christmas lights throughout the Wolverhampton area

Wolverhampton is ready to declare 'It's Christmas!' this year with a four day lights switch-on spectacular.

A month ahead of the Christmas holiday, Wolverhampton kicks off the festivities with its biggest ever city-centre lights switch-on featuring the mayor of Wolverhampton, Santa with real reindeer, Joe Tracini – co-star at The Grand Theatre's 'Cinderella' pantomime – Wolves FC players and mascots, Free Radio's big screen and children's TV characters Ben and Holly.

In Market Square families and friends will be able to soak up the festive spirit around the mini-market and funfair with Christmas tunes playing on the Wulfruna Steam Organ while pop stars grace the big screen.

The fun-packed evening will crescendo at 6.30pm with the lights switch on heralded by a breath-taking firework display.

For the next three nights Christmas lights will be switched on in Wednesfield, Bilston and Tettenhall by the mayor of Wolverhampton and Santa while the Signal 107.7 Road Show play hosts, ensuring the Christmas cheer spreads out far and wide.

Wolverhampton Lights Switch On
Wednesday 26th November
Market Square, Wolverhampton
Event starts: 5pm
Switch On & Fireworks: 6:30pm

Wednesfield Lights Switch On
Thursday 27th November
Wednesfield High Street
Event starts: 4pm
Switch On: 5pm

Bilston Lights Switch On
Friday 28th November
Church Street, Bilston
Event starts: 4pm
Switch On: 5pm

Tettenhall Lights Switch On
Saturday 29th November
Upper Green, Tettenhall
Event starts: 5pm
Switch On: 6.30pm

Entry to all events is free. For full details visit www.itschristmaswolverhampton.co.uk

Call 01902 552099 or email events@wolvescivic.co.uk

Santa is on his way

It's Christmas

Wolverhampton Lights Switch On
Wednesday 26th November
Market Square, Wolverhampton
Event starts: 5pm
Switch On & Fireworks: 6:30pm

Wednesfield Lights Switch On
Thursday 27th November
Wednesfield High Street
Event starts: 4pm
Switch On: 5pm

Bilston Lights Switch On
Friday 28th November
Church Street, Bilston
Event starts: 4pm
Switch On: 5pm

Tettenhall Lights Switch On
Saturday 29th November
Upper Green, Tettenhall
Event starts: 5pm
Switch On: 6.30pm

For full details of Christmas events in Wolverhampton visit:
www.itschristmaswolverhampton.co.uk

FREE entry to all events

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Handmade gifts for all

Kirstie Allsopp seems to have rekindled our love of all things crafty and now Wolverhampton has its own stylish gift boutique featuring the work of over 30 local artists and makers.

Shop in the Square is located in the heart of the city centre just behind 'The Man on the Horse' and is the perfect one stop shop for that quirky stocking fillers from under £5, unique Christmas gifts for him and her, toys and treats for children, chocolate goodies or a bespoke keepsake for a loved one.

Look out for the truly scrumptious handmade cupcake and Swiss roll handbags and purses from £10. Some were recently purchased by Mr Kipling for a competition. There are also beautiful deep jewel coloured felt bags or for something with a vintage feel, bags made from vinyl records.

Most women love jewellery and the shop stocks items from £3 to £25.

From simple button earrings to stunning glass lamp work beads, elaborate wire work creations to bracelets and necklaces made with polymer beads.

There are many gifts that can be personalised from keepsake bears to photo frames and pictures or Ellen's Fingerprint Jewellery can arrange a personalised silver keepsake featuring a miniaturized child's foot or hand print or even a paw print from a favourite pet.

Personal gifts for Christmas

The shop participates in the city centre loyalty scheme for independent shops offering 10 per cent discount on sales over £10.

The Privilege card scheme features offers from over 120 shops, market traders, bars, restaurants, hair and beauty salons.

It's free to sign up, all details are available on www.ilovewlv.co.uk or phone WV One, on 01902 551077.

So if you want an unusual lovingly created gift you need to get down to Shop in the Square at 18 Queen Square Wolverhampton. Opening times 10am – 4pm Monday to Friday, Wednesdays and Saturdays open until 6pm, Sundays 10am – 4pm.

Find Shop in the Square on Facebook or visit the website at www.shopinthesquare.co.uk

Shopping in the city

BE on trend with your Christmas shopping this year and show your support for local shops.

Give overcrowded out of town shopping malls a miss and take advantage of what Wolverhampton city centre has to offer.

Convenient parking and easy to access public transport gives you the chance to browse at your leisure around high street stores including Beatties House of Fraser, BHS, Boots, JD Sports, M&S, New Look, Next, Primark and River Island. You can even beat the crowds by using click and collect at many of the top name stores.

Plus over 200 independent fashion boutiques, jewellers and gift shops offer a range of products not found in mainstream shopping centres.

You can stock up on your Christmas goodies at award-winning butchers and fresh produce outlets.

Look your very best for the festive season by visiting the many hair, nail and beauty salons and then relax with a well-earned treat in one of the countless tea and coffee shops, restaurants or bars.

The Wulfrun Centre will have a fabulous Christmas Tree, with school choirs every Saturday when children's favourites will visit, including Mother Christmas, Granny Turismo and Giant Elves Horace and Boris.

The Mander Centre will once again be hosting the Rotary Tree of Light amid its spectacular Christmas decorative display whilst animated characters entertain children and shoppers.

This year families can meet Santa in his magical grotto in Beatties House of Fraser, located within the spectacular Christmas and toy shop on the first floor, where children can tell him their Christmas wishes.

Grotto opening times, cost and details of events can be found at www.wvone.co.uk/christmas

The streets of Wolverhampton will fill with shoppers at various Christmas events this season

Supporting your local traders

Pick up something special at Wolverhampton Christmas Markets this year and support your local traders.

Stalls selling everything from festive food and fancies, candles and cakes, gifts and goodies, jewellery, jams and jumpers galore will fill Dudley Street from 9am to 5pm on Friday, December 5 and Saturday, December 6.

They will also be open at the same times on December 12,13,19 and 20.

And don't forget Wolverhampton's indoor and outdoor markets will be open as usual in Market Square.

There's always a bargain to be had or if you're looking for something a little different visit the traders in the antiques aisle.

The Markets are open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 8.30am to 4pm.

There's an additional Christmas opening day on Monday, December 22.

Full details can be found online at the site www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/markets

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20% OFF SIRLOIN OF BEEF from Monday 24th to Saturday 29th November

Late night opening and parking offers

Mander Centre, Beatties House of Fraser and Wolverhampton City Council will be rewarding loyal city centre customers with selected free parking offers in the run up to Christmas.

For the Market Square Lights Switch On it's 'Free after 3' on Wednesday, November 26 on the city council's School Street, the Mander Centre and Beatties House of Fraser car parks. Mid week try a more relaxed shop with all the major high street stores and shopping centres open until 9pm on Wednesdays during December and the last two shopping days before Christmas Eve for late night shopping.

To tempt customers in it's 'Free after 3' at the Mander Centre and Beatties House of Fraser and the City Council's Fold Street car park on Wednesday 3, 10 and 17 and also on

Monday 22 and Tuesday 23 December for those last minute presents.

Why not make Sunday a family shopping day and take advantage of the Mander Centre offer of free parking all day on Sundays – December 7, 14 and 21 – December as well as the city council's Fold Street car park. Beatties House of Fraser will also be free on production of a valid receipt for any purchase on the same dates.

The city council short stay pay and display car parks are just £1 for up to two hours daytime and parking after 5.30pm is also £1 (except Civic Centre £3, Broad Street and St Peters car parks £2). On-street parking is free after 6pm.

See www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/parkingfor specific details.

Traditional festivities will add Christmas chear to the streets as shoppers seek bargains

NCP has recently reduced parking costs at the Wulfrun Centre to just £3.50 all day and has special offers and early bird rates at other city centre car parks.

Many of the larger stores including BHS, Primark, Marks & Spencer, Boots and Beatties

House of Fraser will open late for extended shopping or special Christmas events whilst shopping times for independents will vary.

For further information check direct with the stores in the city or see the site www.wvone.co.uk/christmas

Party time – enjoy a festive night in the city with friends and colleagues

'Tis the season for fun

Eat, drink and be merry (in a responsible way of course) this Christmas at one of the many fantastic restaurants, bars and nightclubs the city centre has to offer.

Celebrate at family-owned Indian and Bangladeshi restaurant the Bilash. A favourite in the city centre for over 30 years, this Cheapside eatery's festive fare includes Christmas lunch, dinner and special delights menus, and if you are looking for present ideas why not try a spice hamper or gift card.

If curry isn't to your taste, book a table at Rosso e Nero where you can enjoy fine cuisine in this Darlington Street venue's elegant surroundings. Christmas lunch and evening set menus offer delicious Italian food given a festive twist with even traditional Christmas pudding on offer.

After a lovely meal why not make the evening last a little longer by visiting one of the many city centre bars. The Royal London in Wulfruna Street has a sleighfull of Christmas themed events throughout the whole of December, including Sunday Bingo, Monday quizzes, Beer Pong, 80/90s Retro Glitter and Christmas Jumper parties. For the younger at heart, Faces Nightclub is the place to party the night away with special Christmas and New Year events planned.

And after a great night out to help you get home safely Wolverhampton City Council are again providing a safe haven for tired and foot-sore party people. Take advantage of the taxi booking service in the safe, warm waiting area in the Epic cafe (opposite the Goose in Lichfield Street) with a free hot drink.

It will be open from 11pm to 4am on November 29, December 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20 and 27.

Taxi marshalling will again be in operation ensuring a safe ride home.

Free City Centre Parking Christmas 2014

Free after 3pm
Lights Switch On Event
Wednesday
26th November

Mander Centre Car Park
Beatties HoF Car Park
School Street Car Park

Free after 3pm
Wednesdays
3rd, 10th & 17th
December

Mander Centre Car Park
Beatties HoF Car Park
Fold Street Car Park

Free on Sundays
7th, 14th & 21st
December

Mander Centre Car Park
Beatties HoF Car Park*
Fold Street Car Park

Free after 3pm on
Monday 22nd &
Tuesday 23rd December

Mander Centre Car Park
Beatties HoF Car Park
Fold Street Car Park

* Beatties House of Fraser Car Park free on Sundays on production of valid receipt for any purchase in store on that day

On-street parking at pay and display bays is FREE after 6.00pm. Full details at www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/parking

Merry Christmas!
www.wvone.co.uk/christmas

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Indian Menu
Popadoms & Chutney
Appetisers
Salmon E Patak (Fish) or Rongoli Kebab (Chicken)
Main Course
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Christmas in Wolverhampton

Take a walk through a winter wonderland

Christmas at Codsall & Wergs Garden Centre is bigger and better than ever this year. As soon as you enter, you will are transported into a Winter Wonderland, setting the scene for this Christmas Season.

There are baubles, garlands, wreaths, indoor and outdoor lights, crackers, cards, gift bags and wrapping, glassware, Christmas table accessories and decorations galore. Whether you are looking for something traditional or more modern, they have everything to please.

Wonder through the large range of artificial trees, including pre-lit and fibre optic options.

Browse the gift department, stocking everything from toys and practical gifts and stocking fillers, to the more unusual items for that person who has everything. There is a full range of Village Candle Christmas Gifts now in stock and everything you need for your family pet this Christmas with a new range of plush pet beds, and pet clothing. There really are Christmas goodies, treats and toys galore now in stock.

Real Christmas trees will be on sale from November 29, including all varieties and pot grown. All come netted and blocked free of charge.

Visit Father Christmas this December 6,7,13,14, 20 and 21 from 10am to 4pm. Entry is £2.50 (includes gift). Photos with Father Christmas – processed by elves – are an optional extra.

Plenty of gift ideas – visit Codsall & Wergs Garden Centre this season

Codsall & Wergs sells and redeems Horticultural Trade Association vouchers (HTA). At Codsall & Wergs Garden Centre, you will find Anglo Scottish Aquatics supplying everything you need for cold water and tropical fish.

Visit Yeomans Outdoors, and see their range of outdoor clothes, sundries and accessories.

Book in at the Lawnmower Hospital for your mowers Winter Service.

Eat at Eden Brasserie which serves hearty breakfasts, full carvery, lunches, coffee, tea, cakes and snacks.

Codsall Stone & Paving stock all your hard landscaping and garden project requirements.

Codsall Garden Buildings for sheds, garages, greenhouses and summerhouses

GJ Lewis and Sons, specialises in block paving, landscaping, fencing and patios.

Codsall & Wergs Garden Centre is ready and waiting for you to visit this Christmas Season.

The garden centre is located in Wergs Hall Road, Codsall, Wolverhampton, WV8 2HJ, just off the A41 (Turn at the Crown Pub).

Enjoying traditional festivities with FRS

HAVE some fun this Christmas and invite a dash of country character into your home for a taste of a traditional Christmas that will have happy memories and nostalgia flooding in by the stocking load.

Country clothing encapsulates what we love most about this season, whether it be the wellies that allow us to trudge through the snow and jump in puddles, the wax jacket that protects us against the winter elements or the rich tweeds and tartans that evoke a sense of nostalgia for bygone years and wild, rugged landscapes.

If you have fond memories of being surrounded by Fairisle knit clad family around the Christmas dinner table then maybe you are a country bumpkin at heart. Fortunately in recent years the Fairisle knit has been refined and honed into a fashionable and beautifully styled range of clothing and accessories, to create a range of seasonal favourites you'll want to wear again and again.

Currently enjoying a fashion renaissance are the heritage mainstays, tweed and tartan. Evoking images of winter country scenes, wild and windswept moors and ancient castles, these fabrics too are enjoying a return to fashion favour and you will now find them in stunning modern cuts, elegant jackets and embellishing cosy knitwear.

And what of the infamous Christmas jumper? Forget the itchy fabrics and loud motifs of previous decades, this year our woollies are festooned with a host of country characters who are positively refined and charming.

Nothing says winter like a waxed jacket, from the 'new' smell, to the feel to the memories you make wearing it, it is our go-to winter weather essential and, thanks to a recent resurgence in popularity this country essential can now be found in a huge range of flattering shapes, styles, designs and colours.

FRS is home to much loved brands like Barbour, Hunter, Joules, Aigle and Le Chameau. Find the perfect gift, from that special something, to quirky stocking fillers and unwrap a surprise with free gifts included with selected purchases.

Our extended Christmas returns policy gives you until January 19, 2015 to return or exchange purchases. See the FRS website www.bestinthecountry.co.uk where there is free delivery on all orders and returns are free too.

Codsall & Wergs
Garden Centre
Brand new Christmas Shop Now Open
For all your decorations, artificial trees, indoor & outdoor lights and gifts

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1 Wheeler Close, Codsall Wolverhampton WV8 1EB

Real Christmas trees on sale from Saturday November 29th
VISIT SANTA'S GROTTO - Dec 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21
£2.50 including gift Optional photo gift available to purchase

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Brand new range of pet clothing, plush beds and carriers, plus loads of Christmas gifts for your pets
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Wonderful Wolverhampton

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Tempting treats, modern setting

Penn Tandoori is not your run of the mill curry house, it is a unique dining experience in one of the West Midlands most luxurious restaurants.

As soon as you enter, you are treated like a VIP by the friendly and attentive staff.

Looking around the modern open plan interior of the restaurant, it gives more the impression of a trendy designer bistro with walls painted cream and mint green, giving the place a contemporary and relaxing feel.

Penn Tandoori specialises in authentic Indian cuisine at its very best including Tandoori, Curry and Balti dishes all served up in a warm friendly atmosphere.

You are always assured of a high standard of service and quality of food, all at very moderate prices.

Children are always welcome and the staff always try their best to ensure that families feel at home and have a happy time with them.

Situated on the A449 Penn Road just a couple of miles outside the city centre there is free parking available at the rear of the building so you can rest assured that you can bring your partner of family group along and not worry about parking your car in the road, so why not make it a day by doing your Christmas Shopping and then coming over to Penn Tandoori for a delicious meal to round your day off.

If you haven't got time to eat in and choose to pick up a mouthwatering takeaway instead, there's a 10 per cent discount.

Penn Tandoori has a contemporary design and an extensive menu

Ming Moon, Wolverhampton, is a new dining experience for the city

Try familiar and unusual dishes

Incredible cooking styles are unveiled

MING Moon Wolverhampton opened its doors to the public in November.

The former Wing Wah restaurant has undergone a dramatic transformation making it more opulent and distinctive, attracting customers who loved the previous buffet restaurant, as well as new customers who will love the change in style as well as an all-new menu.

The design of the new restaurant has involved the expertise of interior designer, Simon Tong, winner of the Michael Blee Best Project Award. The cost of the refurbishment has gone into hundreds of thousands of pounds, but this is money well spent considering the success of the flag ship restaurant Ming Moon on Hurst Street in Birmingham city centre.

The previous restaurant had been known for its world cuisine; the new Ming Moon Wolverhampton restaurant will still have an excellent variety of dishes but will have more emphasis on Asian cuisine, including Chinese, Thai, Japanese and Indian dishes.

There will be an amazing live 'theatre-style' open kitchen where master chefs will be able to delight customers with their culinary skills.

The menu has been designed by head chef William Zhao, an award-winning executive chef with many years experience creating Oriental cuisine that includes Peking, Szechuan Cantonese styles.

There will be the famous Teppanyaki dish as well as the new Brazilian Grill giving customers the chance to see freshly prepared meats cooked on a skewer over the hot coals – all the enjoyment of a barbecue minus the weather.

These cooking styles not only look incredible but are very important in bringing out the flavours and the essence of the food.

The restaurant will not only offer amazing dishes that will tantalize the taste buds, but will also house a modern day Cocktail bar.

The restaurant will seat over 250 people, with customers benefitting from an extra 30 staff that will be on hand to offer an excellent restaurant service, with the restaurant doing their part for the local economy by creating 30 more jobs.

Ming Moon Wolverhampton hopes to lead the way in a new modern style of Asian cuisine from the aesthetics of the interior design all the way through to the most important aspect when eating out, the taste!

The whole experience promises to be a feast for the appetite and for the eyes.

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Ming Moon Wolverhampton, a whole new dimension to the Chinese dining experience.
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Attend a service of dedication at Compton Hospice this Christmas, taking place on December 7

Remember a loved one by supporting hospice

Christmas is a very special and poignant time to remember loved ones we have lost.

Through our Light up a Life appeal, Compton Hospice offers a unique opportunity to honour those special to us, by dedicating a light on our celebratory Tree of Life.

Throughout the Christmas period, hundreds of lights shine out from our tree which stands pride of place in the grounds of our hospice.

Each light is a gift for that someone special, a way of remembering them, as they were, a shining light in our lives.

Your gift to those who have meant so much will also be a gift to our patients and their families currently facing the challenge of living with an incurable illness.

Making a donation

If you would like a light shining on our tree, please complete the dedication / payment form. For each donation we will:

- dedicate a light on our tree and record the name of your loved one in our Book of Dedication, along with your short message.
- send you a Light Up a Life Memory Card for you to display in your home
- invite you to our 'Light Up a Life' service taking place on Sunday 7th December at St Edmunds Catholic Academy

Your message will be displayed in our online Book of Dedication and also handwritten into the actual Book of Dedication at the hospice.

This will be available for viewing at the above mentioned service and on main reception thereafter.

The service

You are most welcome to join the service at Compton Hospice as all celebrate the treasured memories of many special people this Christmas.

The service of dedication will be led by Chaplain, Revd. Elaine Anderton on Sunday, December 7, from 3pm to 4pm at St Edmunds Catholic Academy, Compton Road West, Wolverhampton, WV3 9DU.

Guests are invited to join the service at the school from 2.30pm until 4.30pm to view the Book of Dedication and enjoy a selection of refreshments.

Enjoy a gold and black Christmas

Christmas is just a few weeks away so everyone should be busy writing their Christmas present list over the next week or so, and many eager beavers will have already started.

With Wolves riding high in the Championship this season what's sure to be on the lists of many black country residents is something black and gold, that shows allegiance to their favourite team!

The good news is that there are literally hundreds of different gift ideas available from the official club retail megastores at Molineux and Dudley St Wolverhampton, and of course online at www.wolvesmegastore.co.uk

So if you're looking for inspiration take a look at the Wolves replica 14/15 home shirt from PUMA, or the popular white away shirt, both of which are available in adult and junior sizes, with prices starting from just £30. There are also shorts and socks available for both kits.

If you're looking for something a little different then there is a huge range of official leisurewear available for male, female, junior and infant fans, including tee shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies and jackets, all at great prices and in a variety of styles and colours and starting from just £10.

Whether you are buying for an 8 or 80 year old, there will be something from our fantastic range of gifts and souvenirs that will help you to tick off another name from your list. Some of the most popular lines this year will include mugs, scarves, watches, jewellery, books, DVD's calendars, scarves, hats, footballs, pictures, luggage, stationery and much more. And with a stocking filler range starting at £2 Christmas needn't cost you an arm and a leg. Look out for special offers in store and online in the lead up to Christmas. Full details will be available from wolves.co.uk and on facebook.com/officialwolvesfc or twitter.com/officialwolves. To sign up to receive special offers via email visit joinwolves.co.uk.

Visit either of the megastores at Molineux or Dudley St Wolverhampton, which are open seven days a week, and late night shopping until 8pm on Wednesdays from November 26, or go online at www.wolvesmegastore.co.uk

Whatever the age of a Wolves supporter, there is a gift for Christmas

Compton Hospice
Caring Together

Light up a life Christmas 2014
"A time of remembrance and celebration"

Light up a life

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Further dedications:
NAME .....
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NAME .....
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House full signs for big Civic gigs

BLACK Country rock god Robert Plant has reportedly rubbished claims that Richard Branson offered him multi-millions to join a Led Zeppelin reunion but fans of the iconic rocker can see him in action at a sold-out Wolverhampton Civic Hall on Friday.

There's another full house when sassy soul singer Paloma Faith funks up the venue with her Perfect Contradiction album on Saturday. The same day next door at a packed Wulfrun Hall, from noon to midnight, punk rockers — including Slaughter & The Dogs, UK Subs and Splodgenessabounds — celebrate Daz Russell's 30 years putting on gigs. You can get a ticket for The Specials at the Civic tonight (Thursday).

Savage evening of rock 'n' roll ahead

BIRMINGHAM gig highlights kick off with bluesy rock 'n' roll from Barrence Whitfield & The Savages at The Institute in Digbeth tonight (Thursday). James will urge fans to Sit Down at the NIA on Saturday while James Blunt will be sharing his Moon Landing at the same venue on Sunday. That's the same night New Jersey rockers The Gaslight Anthem play the 02 Academy. New York singer-songwriter Sharon Van Etten is at The Institute on Wednesday.

The Robin 2 in Bilston revels in 80s nostalgia, plus some newer material, from Go West on Saturday and China Crisis on Sunday.

American classic Mockingbird being brought to life on stage

Bad boy is a panto 'stalker'

HIS alter-ego Peter Barlow has just been cleared of murder but Coronation Street's Chris Gascoyne is gearing up for another bad boy role as he prepares for Birmingham's big panto.

He left the soap this month after 14 years and will head to the West Midlands for his festive role.

The actor will play Fleshcreep in Jack and the Beanstalk, with pop singer Duncan James, from Blue, as the dashing Jack.

Fun

Chris said: "I am hoping it is going to be good fun, nice and light-hearted."

Duncan is itching to get started. "I've done a lot of theatre and appeared in the West End but I've never had the opportunity to do pantomime," he said.

Their co-stars include Jane McDonald, Gary Wilmot, Paul Zerdin and Matt Slack. The Hippodrome panto runs from December 19 to February 1.

Duncan James and Chris Gascoyne look forward to Jack and the Beanstalk in Birmingham

A MUCH-loved classic American novel comes to the stage when an acclaimed version of Harper Lee's story of childhood, courage and racial prejudice, To Kill A Mockingbird, arrives in Birmingham.

The New Alexandra Theatre will be the venue for the touring incarnation of Regent Park Open Air Theatre's production. It has been adapted by Christopher Sergel from Harper Lee's novel.

The Pulitzer Prize winner, set in America's Deep South during the 1930s, was recently ranked the seventh most influential book on society in a survey commissioned by The Folio Society.

Lawyer

It takes a child's eye view of events when young Scout's small town lawyer father Atticus Finch defends a black man who has been accused of rape, despite widespread condemnation by their neighbours.

Directed by Timothy Sheader, To Kill a Mockingbird opened Regent's Park Open Air Theatre's 2013 season to critical acclaim and sell out performances.

It will be staged in Birmingham from Tuesday to Saturday, November 25. Daniel Betts will play Atticus alongside Zackary Momoh as the accused Tom Robinson and Christopher Akrill as the mysterious Boo Radley. Jemima Bennett, Ava Potter and Rosie Boore with share the role of Scout.

Jemima Bennett as Scout

An adaptation of Ernest Hemmingway's First World War love story A Farewell To Arms is at Birmingham Rep's Studio venue tonight, tomorrow and Saturday. Roald Dahl's The BFG starts a whiz-popping Christmas run at The Rep on November 26.

Saucy musical The Full Monty, in which redundant steel workers reinvent themselves as strippers to a disco soundtrack, stars EastEnders and Hollyoaks actor Gary Lucy at Wolverhampton Grand from Monday to Saturday.

Bouncers' view of the clubbers

GET the doorman's view of a Friday night on the town when John Godber's play about 1980s clubbing, Bouncers, revived by Reform Theatre Company, is staged at Wolverhampton's Arena Theatre tonight (Thursday) and tomorrow.

The Wulfruna Street venue, part of the University of Wolverhampton, is on Saturday hosting The Ugly Girl, which has been described as a surreal slapstick musical. It features Liz Carr and is brought to the theatre by Disability Arts Touring Network.

A Black Country Poetry Night at the Arena on Wednesday, November 26, features Liz Berry, Emma Purshouse, Dave Reeves and Billy Spakemon.

For each event tickets are £10 (£8 concessions).

Holly night to get in a festive mood

THOSE in a festive mood can celebrate Holly at Christmas with the Buddy Holly and the Cricketers show at Birmingham New Alexandra Theatre tonight combining a tribute to the rock 'n' roll star with seasonal tunes. Tomorrow the city centre venue has the Jackson Live in Concert tribute to Michael Jackson by Ben with band and singers and on Saturday prepare for a long night of laughter when comedy veteran Ken Dodd tickles his audience. The one-nighters continue on Sunday with another rock 'n' roll tribute, Roy Orbison and Friends with Halesowen's Barry Steele as The Big O.

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£39.95 per person
Starters
Zuppa Della Casa (v)
Soup of the day
Capesante Scottate
Seared king scallops on a bed of pea and mint puree, Served with garlic and lemon sauce
Avocado Bernardo
Finely sliced avocado with fresh water prawns dressed with marie rose sauce
Salmone Affumicato
Smoked Salmon with thinly chopped white shallots and capers
Verdure Grigliate Marinate (v)
Grilled peppers, aubergines, carrots, courgettes and fennel, drizzled with honey and mustard vinaigrette, rocket salad, topped with parmesan shavings
Main Course
Tacchino Con ripeno Di Castagne
Turkey with chestnut stuffing, chipolatas wrapped in pancetta, served with Italian gravy
Manzo Con rosmarino
Pan fried sirloin, with olive oil, shallots, demi glaze, rosemary, red wine reduction
Seabass Signor Sassi
Pan fried seabass fillets, white wine and garlic, seasonal winter mushroom
Rack of Lamb
Served with red wine and mint sauce
Pollo Alla Cacciatore
Chicken breast served with mushrooms, shallots, peppers, basil in a tomato and red wine sauce
Scaloppne Di Vitello Alla Crema
Escalope of veal served with white wine, mushrooms and cream sauce
Desserts
Christmas Pudding
Tiramisu (Homemade)
Cheesecake (Homemade)
Panna Cotta
Sorbets (Lemon or Mango)
Coffee and mince pie
A la Carte menu Available on request

Christmas Lunch & Dinner Party Menu
Lunch - £16.95 per person
Dinner - £22.95 per person
From 18th November - 24th December
Starters
Zuppa Della Casa
Homemade Soup of the day
Insalata Di Gamberetti
North atlantic prawns, on a bed of crisp lettuce, topped with caper and lemon dressing, served with brown bread
Insalata Caprice
Buffalo Mozarella, Sweet plum tomatoes, avocado, drizzled with a balsamic and olive oil vinaigrette, red chard salad
Calamari Fritti
Baby squid coated in a tempura batter, deep fried, served with a touch of caper mayonnaise, on a bed of rocket salad
Main Course
Tacchino Con Ripeno Di Castagne
Turkey with chestnut stuffing, chipolatas wrapped in pancetta, served with Italian gravy
Fettucine Vegetiriano
Flat pasta, with baby spinach, baby plum tomatoes, shallot, white wine, creamy parmesan sauce
Bistecca Al Pepe
Grilled Sirloin steak cooked in a green peppercorn sauce (all steaks are cooked medium unless required)
Salmone Cardinale
Salmon supreme in a cream, tomato and white wine sauce
Dessert
Christmas Pudding
Tiramisu (Homemade)
Roccos Cheesecake (Homemade)
Profiteroles (Homemade)
All main course are served with potatoes and vegetables. Vegetarian dishes are available (please ask your waiter). There will be a £10 non-refundable/ non-transferable deposit required per person to reserve your table
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CHOICE

Dominic Sandbrook

Tomorrow's Worlds: The Unearthly History of Science Fiction (BBC2, 9.45pm)

In a new four-part series, historian Dominic Sandbrook examines the genre which has dominated the media for decades, after years of being on the fringes of popular culture. And there's no shortage of big names taking part, including Star Trek veterans William Shatner and Nichelle Nichols, Star Wars's feuding duo Anthony Daniels and Kenny Baker, Avatar's Zoe Saldana and one of the genre's most popular authors, Neil Gaiman. In episode one, Dominic examines sci-fi's enduring fascination with outer space, from Jules Verne's groundbreaking 19th-century vision of a voyage to the moon, to that galaxy far, far away in Star Wars.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Football Focus. **12.00** BBC News; Weather. **12.10** Live Formula 1: Abu Dhabi Grand Prix – Qualifying. The battle for pole in the final round of the season (Start-time 1.00pm). **2.15** Live International Rugby Union. Scotland v Tonga (Kick-off 2.30pm). **4.30** Final Score. **5.20** Celebrity Mastermind. (R) **5.50** BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

6.10 Pointless Celebrities. Alexander Armstrong presents a sports special, featuring Dennis Taylor, Bobby George, Sharron Davies, Louise Hazel, Dwain Chambers, Gail Emms, Ugo Monye and Phil Vickery.

7.00 Strictly Come Dancing. After the excitement of Blackpool Tower Ballroom, the pro-celebrity couples make their way back to the studio – and with another couple having been voted out last week, the competition will be more tense than ever. But there will be plenty of spinning and sequins as the hopefuls tackle a number of demanding routines in the hope of getting their names at the top of the leaderboard. Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman present, while Len Goodman, Bruno Tonioli, Craig Revel Horwood and Darcey Bussell are the ones to impress. The results are tomorrow at 7.15pm.

8.15 Atlantis. Part two of two. Pasiphae continues to lay siege to the city, and the only hope rests with Jason, Hercules and Pythagoras, who are far from home fighting their own battle.

9.00 Casualty. An asylum seeker refuses life-saving surgery because of her religious beliefs, Big Mac tries to reunite a Burmese man with his daughter and Dylan helps Ethan with a diagnosis.

9.50 The National Lottery Live. Gaby Roslin celebrates 20 years of the National Lottery, with a performance from shadow dancers Attraction charting the history of lottery funding in the UK.

10.00 BBC News; Weather.

10.20 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of today's Premier League clashes, including Arsenal v Manchester United; National Lottery Update.

11.45 The Football League Show.

1.05 Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.10** BBC News.

BBC2

8.20 Formula 1: Abu Dhabi Grand Prix – Practice Two. (R) **9.55** Live Formula 1: Abu Dhabi Grand Prix – Practice Three. **11.05** Bargain Hunt. (R) **11.30** James Martin: Home Comforts. (R) **12.15** James Martin: Home Comforts. (R) **1.00** Rick Stein's Far Eastern Odyssey. (R) **2.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **2.45 Film:** The Red Shoes. (1948) Powell and Pressburger's drama, starring Moira Shearer. **4.55** Live International Rugby Union. Wales v New Zealand (Kick-off 5.30pm).

7.30 Flog It! Trade Secrets. The experts examine the smallest and largest collectibles featured on the show, and Paul Martin visits Wiltshire where the Science Museum stores its oversized objects.

8.00 Perry and Croft: Made in Britain. The celebration of comedy writing duo David Croft and Jimmy Perry continues with an examination of how their sitcoms chronicled the UK's class system in the 20th century.

8.30 Dad's Army. The platoon takes part in an efficiency test in a bid to prove its worth, but mistakenly attacks a tea lady with onions from Jones's van. (R)

9.00 QI XL. Extended edition. Bill Bailey, Sandi Toksvig, Jason Manford and regular panellist Alan Davies try to answer host Stephen Fry's range of fiendish questions about lethal things.

9.45 Tomorrow's Worlds: The Unearthly History of Science Fiction. New series. Dominic Sandbrook explores the many aspects of the genre and examines its impact on cinema, television and literature. He begins by looking at sci-fi's enduring fascination with outer space, from Jules Verne's pioneering 19th-century vision of a voyage to the moon, to the universe George Lucas created for Star Wars. Along the way, he reveals how Stanley Kubrick made 2001: A Space Odyssey seem so believable and why a man in a dressing gown became one of sci-fi's best-loved heroes in The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy.

10.45 Intruders. Jack discovers the cause of Amy's recent strange behaviour.

11.30 Film: Minority Report. (2002) Sci-fi thriller, starring Tom Cruise.

1.50 Film: The Thing from Another World. (1951) **3.10** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show! **6.25** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.35** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.40** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.50** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **7.05** Canimals. (R) **7.10** Canimals. (R) **7.20** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.25** Sooty. (R) **7.35** Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **7.50** Matt Hatter Chronicles. **8.15** Horrid Henry. **8.30** The Munch Box. **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** The Hungry Sailors. (R) **10.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.20** ITV News; Weather. **11.25** Storage Hoarders. (R) **12.25** Surprise Surprise. (R) **1.30** All Star Family Fortunes. (R) **2.15** Doc Martin. (R) **3.15** Keep It in the Family. (R) **4.15 Film:** Scooby-Doo. (2002) Live-action comedy adventure.

6.00 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.15 ITV News; Weather.

6.30 New You've Been Framed! Comedy with Harry Hill, inspired by viewers' videos, featuring the interrogation of a toy bear, Disney princesses conducting body searches and tips for keeping a marriage fresh.

7.00 The Chase: Celebrity Special. Olympic gold medallist Greg Rutherford, Birds of a Feather star Lesley Joseph, Emmerdale's Matthew Wolfenden and football pundit Chris Kamara play for charity. Bradley Walsh hosts.

8.00 The X Factor. The aspiring pop stars hope to turn another week of rehearsals into a winning performance as they each take the stage in the seventh live studio round. With the final now just three weeks away and the prize of a life-changing record deal coming a little closer, the acts will be feeling the pressure to stand out from the competition and win viewers' votes. Dermot O'Leary deals with the drama on the judging panel. The results are tomorrow at 8pm.

9.40 I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! Ant and Dec present the latest jungle stories and announce which camper will be taking part in the next Bushtucker Trial as the celebrities face another challenging day Down Under.

10.45 The Jonathan Ross Show. The host is joined by stand-up star Lee Evans, comedian and actor Jack Whitehall, musician Noel Gallagher, and Irish group Boyzone.

11.50 ITV News; Weather.

12.05 The Chase. (R) **1.00** Jackpot247. **3.00** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.15 Trans World Sport. **7.10** The Grid. **7.35** Anglesey Sandman Triathlon. **8.00** The Morning Line. **9.00** Weekend Kitchen. **10.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **10.35** Frasier. (R) **11.05** The Big Bang Theory. **11.35** The Big Bang Theory. **12.00** The Simpsons. (R) **12.30** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD. (R) **1.30** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Haydock Park and Ascot. **4.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.25** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.25** Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.00 Come Dine with Me. Eseyoma Sodje hosts the final dinner party in Darlington, hoping her Nigerian recipes and a round of hip-hop karaoke will impress her guests. (R)

6.30 Channel 4 News.

7.00 Speed with Guy Martin. The motorbike fan takes on the challenge of building the world's fastest soapbox racer in an attempt to set a new speed record using just the pull of gravity and a tarmac road. To get to grips with going blisteringly fast on a public road, Guy ties his hand at street luge with former global champion Helene Schmit, before joining his team of engineers to explore the science of rolling resistance and the importance of tyre pressure. Armed with what they believe to be the perfect formula, they produce a unique soapbox cart inspired by Mother Nature and, after training with the Team GB women's bobsled pair, confidence is high – but are disaster and mayhem just around the corner? Last in the series. (R)

8.00 Walking Through History: King John's Ruin – Peak District. On a walk across the medieval monarch's stamping grounds of Sherwood Forest and the Peak District, Tony Robinson discovers King John was a man who stumbled from crisis to crisis.

9.00 It Was Alright in the 1970s. Part two of two. Attitudes to feminism, foreigners, family values and sexual orientation on TV in the 1970s, featuring a selection of surprising clips. Matt Lucas narrates.

10.00 Film: Lawless. (2012) Premiere. Crime drama, starring Shia LaBeouf, Tom Hardy and Jason Clarke.

12.20 Film: JFK. (1991) **3.40** Hollyoaks. (R) **5.55** SuperScrimpers. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **9.35** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **10.10** Access. **10.15** Gibraltar: Britain in the Sun. (R) **11.15** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R) **12.15 Film:** Trading Christmas. (2011) A lonely widow and a frustrated writer arrange to swap houses for Christmas, and both find themselves having unexpected romances. Comedy, starring Faith Ford and Gil Bellows. **2.00 Film:** All I Want for Christmas. (2007) Romantic drama, with Gail O'Grady and Robert Mailhouse. **3.45 Film:** My Santa. (2013) Premiere. Drama, starring Samaire Armstrong. **5.30 Film:** Crazy for Christmas. (2005) Family drama, starring Andrea Roth.

7.15 Film: Christmas Wishes. (2012) A teacher at a boarding school agrees to look after troubled students who are unable to go home for the Christmas holidays. His career is threatened when a pupil vandalises a beloved local tree where people can leave their handwritten wishes, but he rallies the townsfolk to repair the damage. Family drama, starring Jason Gedrick and Richard Harmon.

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 Film: The Long Kiss Goodnight. (1996) An amnesiac teacher starts to experience disturbing flashbacks of her former life and hires a private eye to help her learn more about her history. His findings unearth a murky past and her involvement with a shadowy government organisation – whose agents have been dispatched to kill them both. Action thriller, with Geena Davis and Samuel L Jackson, alongside Patrick Malahide, Brian Cox and Craig Bierko.

11.20 Gotham. Bullock fears a copycat serial killer is targeting the offspring of the city's wealthiest citizens, while the net closes around Gordon for the apparent murder of Oswald Cobblepot. (R)

12.15 SuperCasino. Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **3.10** The Gadget Show. The presenters employ technology to transform their chances of beating professionals at their own game, with Ortis Deley using a robot to take on a goalkeeper in a penalty shootout. (R) **4.00** House Doctor. Ann Maurice works her magic on an arty garden flat in the Kensal Green area of west London. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three

7.00 Great Movie Mistakes III: Not in 3D **8.00** Top Gear **9.00** Sherlock **10.30** Live at the Apollo **11.00** Family Guy **1.15** Sweat the Small Stuff **1.45** Life Is Toff **2.15** The Revolution Will Be Televised **2.45** Live at the Apollo **3.15** Some Girls **3.45** In Deep **4.00** Close

BBC Four

7.00 Natural World: Grizzlies of Alaska **8.00** The Riviera: A History in Pictures **9.00** Inspector Montalbano **10.45** The Joy of the Guitar Riff **11.45** Great Guitar Riffs at the BBC **12.45** Top of the Pops: 1979 **1.30** Sounds of the 70s 2: Art House Glam – Get in the Swing **2.00** Natural World: Grizzlies of Alaska **3.00** The Riviera: A History in Pictures **4.00** Close

ITV2

12.30 Film: Free Willy 2: The Adventure Home (1995) **2.30 Film:** Dungeons and Dragons (2000) **4.35** I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! **6.05 Film:** King Kong (2005) **9.40** The Xtra Factor **10.45** I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here Now! **11.45** The X Factor **1.20** The Xtra Factor **2.20** You've Been Framed! **2.45** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3

12.35 Film: Columbo: Any Old Port in a Storm (1973) **2.35** A Touch of Frost **4.35** Inspector Morse **6.55** Rosemary & Thyme **8.00** Doc Martin **9.00** Midsomer Murders **11.00** A Touch of Frost **12.45** Bomb Girls **1.35** World Kitchen **2.00** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV4

11.20 Alias Smith and Jones **12.20** Movies Now **12.35 Film:** Cheyenne Autumn (1964) **3.45 Film:** Rooster Cogburn (1975) **6.00** FIA Formula E Championship **7.00** Storage Wars **9.00 Film:** A View to a Kill (1985) **11.45 Film:** Raging Bull (1980) **2.25** Cheers **2.50** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

E4

12.00 How I Met Your Mother **1.00 Film:** A Turtle's Tale: Sammy's Adventures (2010) **2.45** Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **3.00** Made in Chelsea **4.00** Melissa & Joey **5.00** How I Met Your Mother **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **9.00 Film:** The Fourth Kind (2009) **11.05** Rude Tube **12.10** The Inbetweeners **1.20** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **2.15** How I Met Your Mother **3.00** Franklin & Bash **3.45** Happy Endings

Film4

2.50 The Time Machine (1960) **4.55** Star Trek: Insurrection (1998) **7.05** The Seeker: The Dark Is Rising (2007) **9.00** Rush Hour 3 (2007) **10.45** Underworld: Awakening (2012) **12.25** Room 237 (2012) **2.25** Apartment 143 (2011)

CHOICE

Michael Palin

Remember Me (BBC1, 9pm)
It's 23 years since Alan Bleasdale's GBH first hit our screens. Incredibly, it marks the last time that Michael Palin took the lead role in a TV drama. But the seasoned traveler and comedian is back in this three-part series as Tom, an eightysomething pensioner living in a small Yorkshire town. He fakes a fall so he can be taken into residential care, but takes with him only an empty suitcase. Once he's settled in, a variety of bizarre events begin, sparked by the freak death of the social worker in charge of his case. Later, Hannah, the care worker Tom has bonded with, discovers sheet music and wax recordings of various versions of Scarborough Fair, but he becomes agitated when she sings it to him.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.35** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Sunday Morning Live. **11.00** Sunday Politics. **12.10** Live Formula 1: Abu Dhabi Grand Prix. The final round of the season (Start-time 1.00pm). **3.30** Escape to the Country. (R) **4.00** Points of View. **4.15** Songs of Praise. **4.50** Life Story. (R) **5.50** BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

6.15 Countryfile. The team is in Berkshire, where John Craven visits the agricultural college and discovers the village of Cookham, the inspiration for artist Stanley Spencer. Shauna Lowry heads to a valley where hundreds of racehorses train each day, and meets the son of crime writer and jockey Dick Francis. Wildlife expert Sanjida O'Connell walks the Ridgeway, the Roman road that wends its way across the county, and discovers how the landscape has inspired writers, including Wind in the Willows author Kenneth Grahame. Tom Heap investigates measures to get tough against the persecutors of birds of prey. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

7.15 Strictly Come Dancing: The Results. Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman reveal which couples are in the dance-off, leaving their fates in the hands of the judges, and Barry Manilow performs an old favourite.

8.00 Antiques Roadshow. The team visits Tredegar House near Newport in Wales, where items include a tapestry woven in tribute to Status Quo, a frog-shaped brooch and an intricately carved coconut.

9.00 Remember Me. New series. Supernatural thriller, starring Michael Palin as an elderly man whose admittance to a nursing home triggers a series of inexplicable events. Mark Addy co-stars.

10.00 BBC News; Weather.

10.30 Match of the Day 2. Mark Chapman reviews the day's Premier League action, featuring Crystal Palace v Liverpool at Selhurst Park and Hull City v Tottenham Hotspur at the KC Stadium.

11.30 The Apprentice. (R)

12.30 Film: Protocol. (1984) **2.00** Weather for the Week Ahead. **2.05** BBC News.

BBC2

7.15 Countryfile. (R) **8.15** Glorious Gardens from Above. (R) **9.00** The Football League Show. (R) **10.20** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.50** James Martin's Food Map of Britain; (R) Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00** International Rugby Union. **2.00** Bargain Hunt. (R) **2.45** Live Women's International Football. **5.00** Coast. (R) **5.30** Glorious Gardens from Above. (R)

6.15 Flog It! Antiques experts Michael Baggott and Philip Serrell value the goods on show in Barnsley, South Yorkshire, and Paul Martin talks to artist Graham Ibbeson. (R)

7.00 Secrets of the Castle with Ruth, Peter and Tom. Ruth Goodman, Peter Ginn and Tom Pinfold learn the skills of medieval builders by heading to France to join a project to construct a 13th-century castle from scratch. (R)

8.00 The Mekong River with Sue Perkins. The comedienne continues her journey up the Southeast Asian river and reaches Laos, where she spends a day with novice Buddhist monks and visits the Xayaburi hydroelectric dam.

9.00 World's Greatest Food Markets. Billingsgate fish merchant Roger Barton pits himself against traders at Mexico City's Central de Abasto, which is the largest wholesale food market on the planet.

10.00 Russell Howard's Good News. The comedian offers his perspective on stories dominating the media, whether on television, online or in print, and he is joined by a guest with an amazing tale to tell. (R)

10.30 The Wrong Mans. Sam and Phil go on the run after managing to free Scarlett from Mr Lau's clutches and find temporary safety in the hands of enigmatic MI5 agent Walker. (R)

11.00 The Wrong Mans. Sam and Phil stumble upon an assassination plot. (R)

11.30 Film: Moon. (2009) An astronaut working alone at a base on the moon discovers the disturbing truth about both the operation he is running and his own identity. Sci-fi drama, starring Sam Rockwell.

1.00 Film: The Quatermass Xperiment. (1955) **2.20** Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **3.20** Holby City. (R) **4.20** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show! **6.25** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.35** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.40** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.50** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **7.05** Canimals. (R) **7.10** Canimals. (R) **7.20** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.25** Sooty. (R) **7.35** Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **7.50** Ultimate Spider-Man. **8.15** Horrid Henry. **8.30** Big Time Rush. **9.00** The Aquabats! Super Show! (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) **10.30** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.30** ITV News. **11.40 Film:** Carry On Cruising. (1962) **1.30** The Unforgettable Joan Sims. (R) **2.00** All Star Family Fortunes. (R) **3.00** The X Factor. (R) **4.40** Midsomer Murders. (R)

6.30 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.45 ITV News; Weather.

7.00 Keep It in the Family. Six stars of Benidorm join Bradley Walsh in the studio as they prepare to face the dreaded drop. Crissy Rock (Janey), Sherrie Hewson (Joyce), Jake Canuso (Mateo), Janine Duvitski (Jacqueline), Tony Maudsley (Kenneth) and Perry Benson (Clive) provide assistance as the Mercer and Jacovides families go head to head in a series of fun-filled rounds to win big prizes. The celebrities each hold the clue to a gift, from new cars to holidays in the sun, and face being sent through a trapdoor as the contestants decide whether to swap, drop or keep it in the family.

8.00 The X Factor Results. Dermot O'Leary reveals who is safe and who has scored the lowest number of votes. Plus, performances by some of the biggest acts in the charts.

9.00 I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! The surprises keep coming for the celebrities as one of them faces a live Bushtucker Trial in an attempt to win food for their fellow campmates. Having completed their first week Down Under, there are still plenty of nightmarish tasks ahead for the stars, and with homesickness setting in, some of them will be struggling. Ant and Dec round up the best bits from the past 24 hours.

10.30 ITV News; Weather.

10.45 Catchphrase. Stephen Mulhern hosts the game show. (R)

11.25 Premiership Rugby Union.

12.15 The Store. **2.20** Motorsport UK. **3.10** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **3.55** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.10 NFL: The American Football Show. (R) **7.10** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **7.35** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Jamie's Comfort Food. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** Fifteen to One. **1.30** The Big Bang Theory. **2.00** The Big Bang Theory. **2.30** The Simpsons. (R) **3.00** The Simpsons. (R) **3.30** The Simpsons. (R) **4.00 Film:** Furry Vengeance. (2010) Family comedy, starring Brendan Fraser. **5.50 Film:** Rio. (2011) Animated comedy, with the voice of Jesse Eisenberg.

7.40 Channel 4 News.

8.00 Woolly Mammoth: The Autopsy. The discovery of an extraordinarily well-preserved woolly mammoth in Siberia last year has quickened the pace of one of the most ambitious and controversial projects in science – the cloning of this iconic giant of the Ice Age. When it was dug out of the permafrost, a dark red liquid oozed from the frozen body. Could it be blood? This documentary follows an international team of experts carrying out a historic autopsy on the carcass and gains access to the leading mammoth de-extinction programmes happening now in the US and South Korea.

9.00 Homeland. CIA director Lockhart arrives just as Carrie's investigation faces complications, with the troubled agent learning Majid Javadi has hatched an audacious plan to intercept information he can sell on. US drama, starring Claire Danes and Tracy Betts.

10.00 Sarah Millican: Thoroughly Modern Millican Live. Stand-up performance, recorded at London's Hammersmith Apollo during the comedienne's 2012 UK tour, featuring anecdotes on life's humdrum curiosities. (R)

11.00 Alan Carr: Chatty Man. The host is joined by entertainer Bette Midler, comedian Keith Lemon, and singer-songwriter James Blunt. Sam Smith performs his new single Like I Can. (R)

12.00 Confessions of a Copper. The first of two programmes in which professionals lift the lid on their working lives. (R) **1.00** The Simpsons. (R) **1.25** American Football Live. New York Giants v Dallas Cowboys (Kick-off 1.30am). **4.45** The Grid. (R) **5.15** SuperScrimpers. (R) **5.35** Countdown. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.30** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) **6.35** Seaside Antics. **6.40** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.50** Chloe's Closet. (R) **7.05** Olly the Little White Van. (R) **7.10** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **7.25** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.35** Paw Patrol. **7.45** Little Princess. (R) **8.00** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.15** Wanda and the Alien. **8.25** Zack and Quack. **8.40** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **8.55** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.10** LazyTown. (R) **9.40** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **10.15** Access. (R) **10.20** Police Interceptors. (R) **11.15** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.15** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.10 Film:** A Boyfriend for Christmas. (2004) Romantic drama, starring Kelli Williams and Shane Baumel. **3.00 Film:** The Christmas Secret. (2014) Premiere. Drama, starring Bethany Joy Lenz. **4.45** 5 News Weekend. **4.55 Film:** Superman III. (1983) Comic-book adventure sequel, starring Christopher Reeve.

7.15 Film: Hancock. (2008) A reluctant, alcoholic superhero ends up the most hated man in Los Angeles thanks to his habit of causing mayhem and destruction while trying to do good. However, when he saves the life of a PR guru, the grateful executive sets about transforming the public perception of the crime-fighter, despite his wife's strong misgivings. Comedy, starring Will Smith, Jason Bateman and Charlize Theron. Edited for language.

9.00 Film: The Green Hornet. (2011) Premiere. A wealthy playboy inherits a media empire when his father dies. Determined to do some good for a change, he uses his new-found fortune to become a masked crime-fighter. Aided by his chauffeur, who is a kung fu expert and a technical genius, he fights to bring down a powerful gangster. Comic-book adventure, starring Seth Rogen.

11.25 Film: The Punisher. (1989) A policeman-turned-vigilante must save the kidnapped children of a gangster whom he has sworn to bring down. Vigilante thriller, starring Dolph Lundgren.

1.05 SuperCasino. **3.10** Family Massacre: The Jersey Slayer. (R) **4.00** House Doctor. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **5.15** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.50** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Formula 1: Abu Dhabi Grand Prix – Highlights **8.00** Pop's Greatest Dance Crazes **8.15 Film:** The Proposal (2009) **10.00** Family Guy **10.45** Some Girls **11.15** American Dad! **12.00** Life Is Toff **12.30** The Revolution Will Be Televised **1.00** Snow, Sex and Suspicious Parents **2.00** Some Girls **2.30** Sweat the Small Stuff **3.00** The Revolution Will Be Televised **3.30** Life Is Toff **4.00** Close

BBC Four
7.00 The Great War **7.40** Britain's Wildest Places **8.00** The Day of the Triffids **9.00** Hunt v Lauda: F1's Greatest Racing Rivals **10.00** Jim Clark: The Quiet Champion **11.00** Dolly Parton @ Glastonbury 2014 **12.10** Kenny Rogers: Cards on the Table **1.10** Country Kings at the BBC **2.10** Sounds of the 70s 2 Reggae – Stir It Up **2.40** Glen Campbell: The Rhinestone Cowboy **3.40** Close

ITV2
1.55 McBusted: The Hot Desk **2.05** You've Been Framed! **2.40 Film:** Small Soldiers (1998) **4.50** I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! **5.50 Film:** Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang (2010) **8.00** Scorpion **9.00** The Xtra Factor **10.00** You've Been Framed! **10.30** I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here Now! **11.35** Educating Joey Essex **12.40** Two and a Half Men **1.30** Dads **1.50** The Vampire Diaries **2.35** Kesha: The Hot Desk **2.45** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3
11.50 A Touch of Frost **1.55** Rosemary & Thyme **2.55 Film:** Columbo: Swan Song (1974) **5.00 Film:** On the Buses (1971) **6.50** Inspector Morse **9.00** Lewis **11.00** Cracker **2.20** Judge Judy **3.25** ITV3 Nightscreen **3.40** Emmerdale

ITV4
5.30 Storage Wars **6.00** British Touring Car Championship **8.00** Premiership Rugby Union **9.00 Film:** Spy Game (2001) **11.35 Film:** First Blood (1982) **1.40** Jean-Claude Van Damme: Behind Closed Doors **2.30** Tommy Cooper **2.55** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

E4
4.15 Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **4.30** The Big Bang Theory **8.00 Film:** 27 Dresses (2008) **10.10** The Inbetweeners **11.20** Drifters **11.50** Bad Robots **12.25** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **1.25** Rules of Engagement **2.20** My Fair Wedding

Film4
2.50 It's a Wonderful Life (1946) **5.25** Stormbreaker (2006) **7.15** The Golden Child (1986) **9.00** Lockout (2012) **10.55** Date Night (2010) **12.40** Breathless (2008) **3.20** Close

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FILM CHOICES

MONDAY
Harry Brown, Channel 5, 10pm
An elderly retired marine leads a law-abiding existence on a south London estate, until his best friend is murdered by a local gang. Furious at the police's inability to bring the killers to justice, he takes the law into his own hands to get revenge. Crime thriller, starring Michael Caine. (2009)

TUESDAY
The Shooting Party, BBC1, 12.20am
An English aristocrat invites friends to his stately country home for a weekend of pheasant shooting in 1913. The guests enjoy the self-indulgent privileges of the upper classes, heedless of the local rural poor who cater to their every whim – and are blithely unaware that the approaching war will change their sheltered lives for ever. Period drama, based on Isabel Colegate's novel, with Edward Fox and Robert Hardy. (1985)

WEDNESDAY
New Town Killers, BBC1, 11.35pm
A teenager from inner-city Edinburgh agrees to act as prey in a deadly game of cat and mouse played by a wealthy banker and his latest recruit. However, the hunters always seem to be one step ahead and the youngster realises his chances of survival are slim. Thriller, starring Dougray Scott. (2008)

The World Is Not Enough, Friday, ITV, 10.45pm

THURSDAY
Tomorrow Never Dies, ITV, 10.40pm
James Bond joins forces with a Chinese agent to foil a media mogul's scheme to start a war between their countries. Using an undetectable stealth ship, the press baron plans an attack on both nations' navies, knowing they will blame each other – giving him exclusive global media coverage of the resulting conflict. Spy adventure, starring Pierce Brosnan, Jonathan Pryce, Teri Hatcher and Michelle Yeoh. (1997)

FRIDAY
The World Is Not Enough, ITV, 10.45pm
James Bond is assigned to protect the heiress of an oil dynasty after her father is killed in a bombing at MI6 headquarters. The attack is the work of an infamous terrorist who is unable to feel pain after surviving a gunshot to his head, and who now intends to destroy the world's supply of oil. Spy adventure, starring Pierce Brosnan, Robert Carlyle, Sophie Marceau and Robbie Coltrane. (1999)

PICK OF THE WEEK

Martin digs deep to find us the best deals

Financial journalist Martin Lewis has been frequenting our screens for years now, giving insider tips on how we can further tighten our purse-strings during these hard-up times.

In fact, the money-saving expert is nothing short of a godsend actually, and if anybody knows cash, it's him.

Of course, Mr Lewis' tips have been known to get him into trouble with the big guns of the trading world on the odd occasion, but, from challenging unfair parking tickets to doling out the know-how regarding those television adverts and pestering text messages about mis-sold PPI, his advice has proved priceless (pardon the pun) in the past.

So it's with open arms and loud cheers that we welcome him back to the telly, alongside reporter Saira Khan – and it's come at just the right time, and given the time of the year, there's a noticeable theme to this first episode.

The series kicks off on what's become known as 'Black Friday', the date marking the beginning of the Christmas shopping season. But if you're already fretting because you don't even know where to start when it comes to present-buying this year, Martin will be listing all the essential deals that you expect to find in stores and online.

Meanwhile, Martin and Saira visit a family in Hertfordshire for a personal stock take of all their belongings to help them raise money to pay for Christmas. And soon enough, any regrets they thought they'd have are forgotten, as they sell unused clothes, mobile phones, buggies and toys.

The Christmas Ideal Home Show is also on Martin and Saira's to-do list this week, as they give members of the public handy tips on how to drum up a bit of extra cash for the festive period, while Martin dresses up for pantomime season as Dame Right-I-Am to show us how we can become wise consumers.

But while Martin is keen to impart his expertise, he certainly doesn't want to sound like he's preaching, telling PA that he never intended to make money from doing this: "I don't preach about how to make money. That's not really my thing at all or my passion to be honest.

"I was very lucky is the answer. I set up a website I believed in. It originally had no way of making money. I set up a business. I still don't consider myself to be an entrepreneur. I'm somebody who set up a website and I consider myself to be a journalist and consumer campaigner.

"Because the website got so big I needed a way to fund my servers, so I came up with the most ethical way I could think of to fund the site, and it did a lot better than I thought it would.

"I'm about providing information for consumers and fighting for consumer rights. I'm not about setting businesses up, and I think there are far more qualified people than me to talk about how to do that. I got lucky."

Whichever way you look at it, Martin, we're lucky that you got lucky, as our purses have been a lot heavier since you came along…

The Martin Lewis Money Show, Friday, ITV, 8pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY
Loch Ness Monster: The Missing Evidence
Channel 5, 8pm
Tales of a creature haunting Loch Ness go back for nearly 1,500 years, but only in the last century did the legend truly take off. At St Andrews University, statistical ecologist Charles Paxton has compiled a database of every sighting of the monster ever reported and his team hopes detailed analysis of these records will finally uncover the truth behind the myth of the Loch Ness monster. This programme uses modern forensic technology to re-examine well-known photos and footage, looking at how hopes of finding a surviving dinosaur were dashed by a hoax that fooled everyone, while enthusiast Adrian Shine recounts his decades-long search for the elusive beast.

Posh People: Inside Tatler
BBC2, 9pm
Forget watching Made in Chelsea – if you really want a glimpse of Britain's most privileged, just flick through the pages of Tatler. The oldest magazine in the world, it's been documenting the lives of Britain's upper-classes for 300 years, and being pictured in its pages is a rite of passage for the country's social elite. Now this new series is going behind the scenes to find out what's involved in documenting the lives of the rich and powerful. It discovers that you don't have to be posh to work at Tatler, but it probably does help – editor Kate Reardon is a self-confessed 'honking great Sloane', and all the features team are expected to be versed in the rules of upper-class life. For the magazine's new recruit, writer Mathew Bell, it's a chance to see how the other half live, as he attempts to go from middle-class outsider to privileged insider, at home in the company of those featured on the magazine, who range from Lord Glasgow to Nigerian millionaire Kola Karim.

TUESDAY
Live UEFA Champions League
ITV, 7.30pm
Manchester City v Bayern Munich (Kick-off 7.45pm). Coverage of the matchday five Group E clash from the Etihad Stadium, where the hosts are in desperate need of a positive result. Defeat at home to CSKA Moscow last time out left City bottom of the group and on the brink of elimination, which would be sealed if they fail to beat the German champions and CSKA or AS Roma triumph in the other encounter. The reverse fixture on matchday one saw Bayern win 1-0 courtesy of a late goal from former City defender Jerome Boateng, while the corresponding fixture here in last season's competition also saw the Bundesliga outfit record a victory, as they completely outclassed the Citizens en route to a 3-1 scoreline. Presented by Adrian Chiles.

Live UEFA Champions League, Tuesday, ITV, 7.30pm

WEDNESDAY
Waterloo Road
BBC1, 8pm
Floyd confronts Tiffany and Justin about their relationship, and after the two boys gets into a fight, Tiffany worries her brother will spill the beans to Vaughan and Allie. The police descend on Waterloo Road when Kevin's computer hacking on a multinational organisation is traced back to the school, sparking a major security risk, and Sonya's short story looks set to jeopardise her friendship with Christine after it turns out she has drawn inspiration from her colleague's alcoholic past.

THURSDAY
Britain's Bloodiest Dynasty
Channel 5, 9pm
New series. Powerful storytelling and dramatic reconstruction bring to life one of the most bloody and violent chapters in British history as Dan Jones explores the lives of the Plantagenets, who ruled England and much of France during the Middle Ages. The historian begins with Henry II – the first king of the dynasty – a dashing and energetic warrior who transformed England from a violent and lawless state into the heart of an empire that would become one of the greatest that Europe has ever seen.

FRIDAY
Ben Fogle: New Lives in the Wild
Channel 5, 9pm
Ben journeys to the wilderness of Alaska to spend time with Mike and Fran Turner and their children Cathy and Nate, who welcome him into their simple, self-built log cabin. He discovers how the couple have created a self-sufficient lifestyle by working the land and trapping animals, while battling against forest fires in the summer and freezing conditions in the winter. Ben takes every opportunity to get stuck into forest survival, as he battles mosquitoes and adapts to 24-hour daylight.

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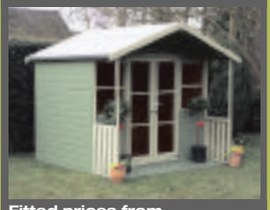
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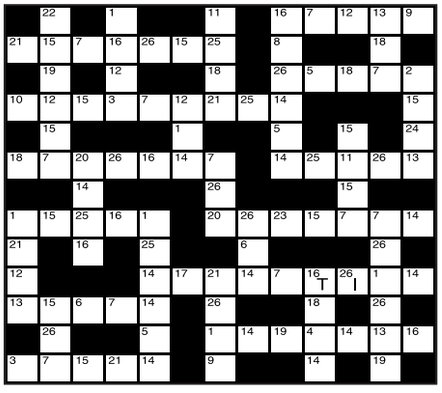
Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



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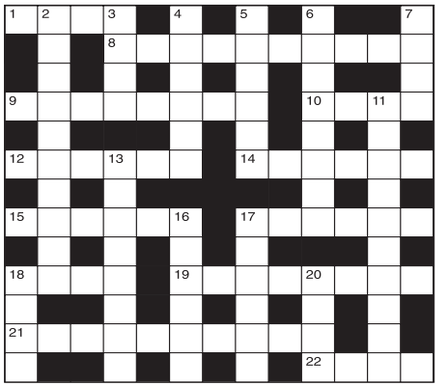
LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1 E	2 G	3 U	4 H	5 B	6 Z	7 P	8 A	9 Y	10 Q	11 V	12 I	13 R
14 L	15 X	16 N	17 T	18 M	19 S	20 J	21 F	22 O	23 W	24 K	25 C	26 D

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.



Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. Goddess is seen twice (4)
8. A certain feeling (10)
9. Flinch because of a handicap (8)
10. Wise men having different image out East (4)
12. Just happened to be wicked (6)
14. It's said to be polite (6)
15. Depression that shows in your face (6)
17. They hold an alternative view of things (6)
18. A wise man changes as he grows older (4)
19. Conditional statement? (8)
21. Overwhelming personalities (10)
22. Is not any faster at splitting points (4)

Down

2. Cutting down what the pastrycook may need (10)
3. Boat takes a doctor from Moscow (4)
4. Not off upon a visit, but ready to make one (2,4)
5. Improve on casual acquaintance (4,2)
6. Bolt many together? (8)
7. It turns up after an opponent (4)
11. Proceed directly to lead an honest life? (2,8)
13. It may be made in open court or in camera (8)
16. Do some relief work? (6)
17. A grease paint allowance, in part (6)
18. Half the alphabet studied by physicists (4)
20. Part of Chelsea seldom free of anxiety (4)

Quick Clues:

Across

1. Appear (4)
8. Retort (6,4)
9. Infancy (8)
10. Tents (4)
12. Wheedle (6)
14. Ridicule (6)
15. Big wave (6)
17. Up-to-date (6)
18. Cosy (4)
19. Penitent (8)
21. Neutralise (10)
22. Female relative (4)

Down

2. Digging out (10)
3. Numerous (4)
4. On land (6)
5. Wanted (6)
6. Shadowed (8)
7. Disregard (4)
11. Temperance (10)
13. Courteous (8)
16. Evil (6)
17. Handbook (6)
18. Ill (4)
20. Roster (4)

Sudoku

6		4			1			7
	8		2	3	9			6
					7		8	
7	5			1				2
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				2			3	1
	2		1		4			
9			8	6	3		2	
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Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

3	7	2	8	1	5	9	4	6
6	9	5	7	3	4	1	8	2
4	8	1	9	6	2	5	7	3
1	4	3	6	8	7	2	5	9
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9	2	6	4	5	1	8	3	7
2	6	7	1	4	8	3	9	5
8	3	9	5	7	6	4	2	1
5	1	4	2	9	3	7	6	8

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 7 Ochre; 8 Redress; 9 Camelot; 10 Argon; 12 Take a chair; 15 Dumb blonde; 18 Owlet; 19 Tourism; 21 Conform; 22 Gloss. Down: 1 Touch-and-go; 2 Shame; 3 Deal; 4 Writhe; 5 Advanced; 6 Belgian; 11 Narrow miss; 13 Ambition; 14 Ambling; 16 On time; 17 Pivot; 20 Urge.
QUICK - Across: 7 Maybe; 8 Perfect; 9 Asunder; 10 Avert; 12 Freebooter; 15 Deliberate; 18 Remit; 19 Genteel; 21 Operate; 22 Amiss. Down: 1 Ambassador; 2 Syrup; 3 Mend; 4 Sparse; 5 Breakout; 6 Beneath; 11 Thriftless; 13 Rebuttal; 14 Slumber; 16 Regret; 17 Merit; 20 Near.

Quiz

1. Which breed of dog has border and bearded varieties?
2. Who wrote the four Claudine novels?
3. What nationality was Captain Kidd?
4. Which bird is also known as Mother Carey's chicken?
5. To which group of islands does Skye belong?
6. Which Scottish singer was born Marie Lawrie?
7. What is the capital city of Bavaria?
8. After which king is US state Georgia named?
9. Which premiership football captain received an MBE in the 1994 New Year's Honours List?
10. On which US tycoon's life was Citizen Kane based?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Heron; 2 Hinduism; 3 Inigo Jones; 4 The Jazz Singer; 5 Aubergine; 6 Myrna Loy; 7 Utopia; 8 Blue Nile; 9 Louis XVI; 10 Heart.

Niner: BUNGALOWS

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

3429 gives an animal,
58763 gives another animal,
1634589 gives a bird.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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Flexible residence is in beautiful countryside

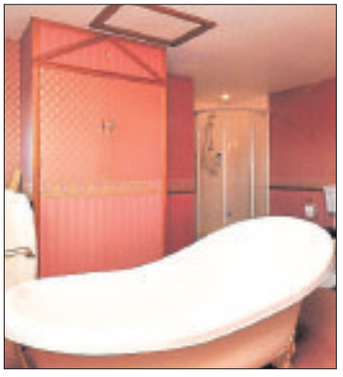
THE Old Coach House on Holyhead Road, Kingswood, Albrighton stands amidst beautiful countryside.

It is for sale through Berriman Eaton at £545,000.

The property has extensive living accommodation and double glazing virtually throughout. It has a porch and hall and inner hall with a cellar off, large double lounge/family room or grand entertaining room.

The dining room has ceramic floor tiling, door to the conservatory and stairs to the first floor. An informal sitting room has French doors and an open fireplace.

The dining kitchen includes granite worktops. There is a further inner hall with a WC, four bedrooms, bathroom and dressing area. There are two thirds of an acre of gardens with terrace, shed, storage unit and summerhouse. Contact 01902 747744 or www.berrimaneaton.co.uk



Ground floor garden flat for £150,000

AN excellent two-bedroomed ground floor garden flat in Riches Street, Wolverhampton is superbly appointed throughout.

It is for sale through Whitegates at £150,000.

With gas central heating and some double glazing it has an entrance porch, entrance hallway, living room with a bay window and feature fireplace, 15ft length excellent fitted breakfast kitchen with integrated appliances and space for a dining table.

There is a master bedroom with built-in wardrobes and an en suite bathroom and a second bedroom with en suite shower room.

For further information on the property contact Whitegates on 01902 429035 or visit www.whitegates.co.uk

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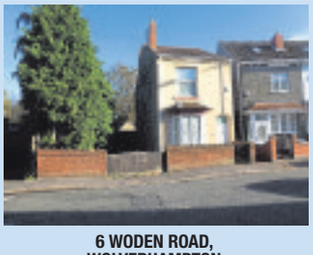
43 HARGREAVES STREET, WOLVERHAMPTON

20 GOLDTHORN HILL, WOLVERHAMPTON

LAND CORNER MASON STREET AND HOSPITAL STREET, BILSTON

104 SHAW ROAD, BLAKENHALL, WOLVERHAMPTON



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ESSINGTON, HOUGH WAY £379,999

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WESTCROFT, CANNOCK ROAD £320,000

"AN OUTSTANDING FAMILY HOME WITH ADJOINING ANNEX TYPE ACCOMMODATION & DOUBLE DETACHED GARAGE" Comprising lounge, dining room, kitchen, utility, 3 upstairs bedrooms & 2 attic areas, en-suite, shower room, ground floor annex with lounge/sun room, bedroom 4, bathroom, office, extensive gardens. EPC Rating TBC

WESTCROFT OLD HAMPTON LANE £350,000

"SET IN AN EXCLUSIVE CUL-DE-SAC THIS DETACHED RESIDENCE OFFERS FLEXIBLE LIVING ACCOMMODATION WITH 3/5 BEDROOMS● " Comprising utility, cloaks wc, family living room, lounge/dining room, dining room/Bedroom Four, bathroom, en-suite, large front, side & rear gardens, double garage.Energy rating D.

WIGHTWICK RAVENSHOLME £275,000

"SITUATED IN A CUL DE SAC LOCATION THIS THREE BEDROOM DETACHED PROPERTY BENEFITS FROM NO UPWARD CHAIN" Comprising canopy porch, entrance hall, downstairs cloakroom, lounge through diner, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom, front & rear gardens with off road parking and garage. EPC Rating D

WEDNESFIELD SOBERTON CLOSE £135,000

"A SEMI DETACHED PROPERTY SITUATED IN A POPULAR CUL DE SAC LOCATION ON THE OAKLANDS ESTATE" Comprising open plan lounge diner, fitted kitchen, three bedrooms, fitted bathroom, ample off road parking, pleasant front & rear gardens with DOUBLE DETACHED GARAGE TO REAR WITH SECURE GATED ACCESS. EPC Rating D

COVEN BREWOOD ROAD £135,000

"A CHARMING AND BEAUTIFULLY CONVERTED GRADE II LISTED GEORGIAN BUILDING WITH A WONDERFUL SELECTION OF TWO BEDROOM TRADITIONAL APARTMENTS" For further details contact Connells on 01902 710170 or visit www.connells.co.uk. Energy rating TBC.

BUSHBURY NORTHWOOD PARK RD £115,000

"OVERLOOKING THE POPULAR NORTHWOOD PARK THIS GENEROUS SEMI DETACHED HOME OFFERS FANTASTIC POTENTIAL" Comprising 17ft lounge, separate dining room/sitting room, kitchen, side veranda with ground floor w.c, 2 outbuildings to rear, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, large front & rear gardens with off road parking. EPC Rating D

WEDNESFIELD RIDGE LANE £110,000

"SET ON A GENEROUS PLOT THIS CHAIN FREE SEMI DETACHED HOME OFFERS GREAT POTENTIAL" Comprising generous lounge, separate dining room, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom, generous front and large rear garden with extra room to side. EPC Rating C

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COPPICE FARM, SNOWDON WAY £250,000

"A WONDERFUL SHOW HOME STYLED DETACHED RESIDENCE SET ON A GENEROUS PLOT" Comprising ground floor w.c, lounge, dining room, sun room/conservatory, refitted breakfast kitchen, FOUR BEDROOMS, master en suite, family bathroom, front & rear gardens with garage & utility area to side. EPC Rating D

PERTON RICHMOND DRIVE £245,000

"THIS FOUR BEDROOM EXTENDED DETACHED FAMILY HOME IS SITUATED IN THE SOUGHT AFTER PERTON AREA" Comprising entrance hall, downstairs cloak, lounge, dining area, extended kitchen diner, four bedrooms, (master en suite) bathroom, front & rear gardens, off road parking & garage. Energy rating D.

SEDGLEY CHARLES HAYWARD DR £125,000

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WEDNESFIELD ORCHARD ROAD £117,500

"WITH GREEN VIEWS TO FRONT & AVAILABLE WITH NO UPWARD CHAIN THIS SEMI DETACHED PROPERTY OFFERS FANTASTIC LIVING ACCOMMODATION" Comprising porch, hall, lounge, sitting/dining room, refitted kitchen, utility, wc, veranda, storage outbuilding, three bedrooms, wet room, off road parking & rear garden. Energy rating D.

SEDGLEY CHARLES HAYWARD DR £104,950

"ATTRACTIVELY PRICED FOR A QUICK SALE THIS MODERN IMMACULATELY PRESENTED TWO BEDROOM TOP FLOOR APARTMENT REQUIRES VIEWING TO FULLY APPRECIATE" Comprising communal entrance hall, entrance hall, open plan lounge kitchen, fitted bathroom, two bedrooms, allocated parking and bin stores. Energy rating C.

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Offers in the region of £349,950

WOLVERHAMPTON
Penn Road, Penn

ENLARGED, gas centrally heated, mostly Upvc double glazed detached of character with many period features but offering further potential comprising; porch, hall, through living/ dining room, enlarged breakfast kitchen. Three bedrooms, bathroom, garage, lengthy rear garden, parking. EPC: E. SEDGLEY

FIXED PRICE: £165,500

WOLVERHAMPTON
Dovedale Road, Ettingshall Park

ENLARGED, gas centrally heated, double glazed semi detached that requires updating comprising; porch, hall , two living rooms, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom, garage, driveway, garden. EPC: D SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £155,000

LANESFIELD
Ward Grove

An outstanding, uPVC double glazed, gas centrally heated semi-detached in exemplary order throughout briefly comprising; hall, lounge, refitted dining kitchen; two double bedrooms, reappointed bathroom. Lengthy garden. EPC:D SEDGLEY

Offers in excess of £110,000

COSELEY
Goldborough Close

Double glazed, gas centrally heated starter home in quiet cul-de-sac, comprising entrance hall, fitted cloaks, transverse lounge, kitchen, THREE BEDROOMS bathroom with white suite.Parking & neat rear garden, EPC C. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £107,950

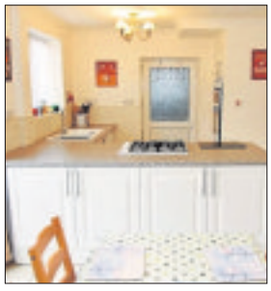
PROPERTY

Spacious semi-detached for sale with no chain

A SPACIOUS three-bedroomed semi-detached house in Griffiths Drive, Wednesfield, Wolverhampton is for sale at £124,995 with no chain.

In the much sought after Ashmore Park it has double glazing and central heating, a lounge with a feature fireplace, re-fitted 19ft dining kitchen with white units, utility, three bedrooms and a double garage.

For more details contact Skitts Estate Agents on 01902 732324 or visit www.skitts.net



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• 3 Bed Semi-Detached House
• Cul-de-sac Location
• Utility Room
• Downstairs W.C

£149,995

Bilston
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• Three Bed Terraced
• Two Reception Rooms
• Loft Conversion • Utility Room
• Ground Floor Family Bathroom

£95.000

Finchfield
Lea Bank

• 2 Bed Apartment
• Open Plan Lounge/Diner• 2 Double Bedrooms,
• Jacuzzi Bath, • Chain Free
• Furniture & Appliances included in sale

Offers in the region of £124,995

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• 3 Bed Semi Detached
• Open Plan Lounge/Diner/Kitchen
• Cul-de-sac location
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£75,000 at 60% shared ownership

Penn
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• Utility Room • En-Suite & Downstairs WC
• Spacious Rear Garden
• Mains Drainage • High Ceilings

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• Driveway with Garage
• Ground Floor shower room with WC • Spacious Rear Garden

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• One Bed Ground Floor Flat
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74 WORCESTER STREET, WOLVERHAMPTON, WEST MIDLANDS WV2 4LE Email: enquiries@rossandclark.co.uk Web: www.rossandclark.co.uk

Traditional family home overlooks Bantock Park

A TRADITIONAL style three-bedroomed family home in Bradmore Road, Wolverhampton overlooks the well-known Bantock Park.

It is for sale through Your Move at £159,950. With double glazing and gas central heating it has an entrance hall, a lounge, dining room, kitchen/diner and three bedrooms and good size rear garden.

For more details contact Your Move on 01902 771511 or visit www.your-move.co.uk

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Burnhill Green, Shropshire NEW Guide £365,000

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2 Bedroom Mid Terraced Property
Guide: £48,000

2 Horace Partridge Road, Wednesbury
3 Bedroom Semi Detached Property
Guide: £45,000-£50,000

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K.Stuart Swash

PROPERTY AUCTION - 9th December 2014

TENBURY WELLS, 6 TEMESIDE CLOSE
Spacious 4 bed Detached in delightful country town location, Two Reception, large Kitchen, Gas CH, pleasant garden
Guide: £138,000 / £145,000
VIEWING - BY APPOINTMENT

WOLVERHAMPTON, 31 NEWBRIDGE STREET
Well presented and attractive 3 bed Semi. Through Lounge, Study, Dining Area. Kitchen, Cloakroom, enclosed Rear Garden with useful Outbuilding
Guide: £118,000 / £123,000
VIEWING - FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 21ST & 22nd NOVEMBER @ 11.00 a.m.

PARKFIELDS, 193 DIXON STREET
Investment - Mid Terrace, Cloakroom, Lounge, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Garden, off-road parking
Guide: T.B.A.
VIEWING - BY PRIOR APPOINTMENT ONLY

PENN, 10 ALEXANDRA ROAD
Smartly modernised, Late Victorian Mid Terraced Residence with two Reception, Kitchen and Utility, Three Bedrooms and Bathroom, Fas CH, double glazed, useful Outbuilding and Rear Garden
Guide: £125,000 /£135,000
VIEWING - FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 21st & 22nd NOVEMBER @ 12.00 noon

North Warnborough, Hampshire, Hook Road
Parcel of Freehold Land with frontage to Hook Road
Guide: £8,000 / £12,000

Tettenhall, 6 Lower Street
Very spacious End Terrace with outlook to Lower Green, Porch, Hall, Two Reception, Kitchen, Shower Room, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas CH, Three Outbuildings, Spacious Garden area
VIEWING - FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 21st & 22nd NOVEMBER @ 10.00 a.m.
Guide: £68,000 / £73,000

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PROPERTY

Detached property has annexe with potential

HAVING tremendous potential, this three-bedroomed detached property in Skip Lane, Walsall has large, versatile living accommodation and a separate annexe plus front views over farmland.

It is for sale through Edwards Moore at £310,000. It has appeal and potential within. Offering tremendous space for further modernisation and improvement, the already large home lends itself to further expansion.

For details contact 01922 621411 or visit www.edwardsmoore.co.uk

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●Modern Fitted Shower Room●
●Fitted Kitchen●
●Potential Long Term●
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GORNAL WOOD

●●Abbey Road●●
●Lovely 2 Bed 1st Floor Flat●
●Modernised Throughout●
●D/G & Electric Heating●
●Good Local Amenities●
●Bathroom With Shower●
●Available NOW - Unfurnished●
Rent £375.00 P.C.M

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●●Pagham Close●
●1 Bed Furnished House●
●D/G & Electric Heating●
●Quiet Cul-De-Sac●
●Good Local Amenities●
●Available October●
●Fully Furnished EPC E●
Rent £395.00 P.C.M

TETTENHALL

●●Thurlby Court●●
●Stunning 1 Bed Flat●
●Gas C/H & D/G - epc D●
●Easy Access To The City●
●Modern Fitted Kitchen●
●Garage Available●
●Available November●
Rent £395.00 P.C.M

COPPICE FARM

●●Lovely 3 Bed Semi●●
●Quiet Location●
●Extended Lounge●
●Modern Fitted Breakfast Kitchen●
●Bathroom With Shower●
●Driveway & Rear Garden●
●Available September - Unfurnished●
Rent £550.00 P.C.M

PENN

●●Reedham Gardens●●
●Lovely Modern 3 Bed House●
●Bathroom With Shower●
●Spacious Kitchen/Diner●
●Neutral Decor & Flooring●
●Excellent Local Amenities●
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CODSALL

●●Birches Road●●
●Lovely 2 Bed Bungalow●
●Gas C/H & D/G●
●Superb Location●
●Close To Local Shops●
●Good Schools Nearby●
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FINCHFIELD

●●Spruce Way●●
●Stunning 2 Bed Flat●
●Excellent Location●
●Gas C/H & D/G●
●Modern Fitted Kitchen●
●Bathroom With Shower●
●Available Now epc C●
Rent £575.00 P.C.M

SEDGLEY

●●NORTHWAY●●
●Modern 3 Bed Detached●
●Gas C/H ● D/G●
●Super Location●
●Driveway, Garage & Rear Garden●
●Nice Views, Good Location●
●Available Immediately●
Rent £595.00 P.C.M

FINCHFIELD

●●Washington House●●
●Superb Duplex Apartment●
●Modernised Throughout●
●Garage Plus Parking●
●2 Double Bedrooms●
●Superb Location●
●Available August epc Band C●
Rent £595.00 P.C.M

WEDNESFIELD

●●Linthouse Lane●●
●Spacious 3 Bed Semi●
●Excellent Location●
●Modern Fitted Kitchen●
●Good Size Lounge/Dining Room●
●Driveway & Garage●
●Available November epc D●
Rent £650 P.C.M

CITY CENTRE

●●Worcester Street●●
●Lovely 3 Bed Apartment●
●Modernised Throughout●
●Gas Central Heating●
●Private Rear Courtyard●
●Ideal For The City●
●Available December Unfurnished●
Rent £595.00 P.C.M

CODSALL

●●Ringhills Road●●
●Lovely 3 Bed Bungalow●
●Gas C/H & D/G epc C●
●Bathroom with Shower●
●Modern Fitted Kitchen●
●Garage Plus Driveway●
●Available December Unfurnished●
Rent £650.00 P.C.M

CASTLECROFT ROAD

●●Stunning 3 Bed Semi●●
●Superb Location●
●2 Reception Rooms●
●Modern Fitted Kitchen●
●Bathroom With Shower●
Driveway & Rear Garden●
●Available Decemeber epc E●
Rent £750.00 P.C.M

NEWBRIDGE

●●Crowther Road●●
●3/4 Bed Detached Bungalow●
●Master Bedroom En-Suite●
●Modern, Spacious Kitchen●
●Off Rd Parking + Garage●
●D/G & Gas C/H - epc F●
●Available Now - Unfurnished●
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Family detached on a popular estate in area

PRESENTED in good order throughout, this three-bedroomed detached property in Woodbridge Close, Bloxwich, is an ideal family home on one of the area's most popular estates.

With its own garage and expected to sell fast, it is for sale through Dixons Estate Agents at £165,000. It has a lounge with a feature fireplace, stairs off to the first floor and an archway through to a dining room, kitchen with white units, three bedrooms, bathroom and gardens. Contact 01922 432011 or www.dixonsestateagents.co.uk

5 STAR HOME BUILDER CUSTOMER SATISFACTION HBF 2014 HOME BUILDERS FEDERATION

Awarded 5 stars for customer satisfaction

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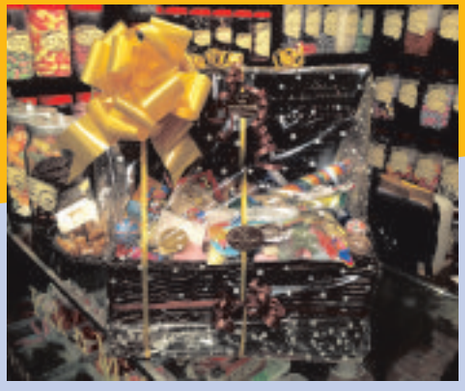

bethefirst

Our impressive new Showhome is launching Saturday 22nd November from 1.30pm.

Mr Martin Peet, founder and owner of Mr Simms Olde Sweet Shoppe will be giving away a luxury hamper full of sweets to one lucky visitor during the day.*

Mr Simms

Knights Court, Gnosall. A beautiful development of just twenty five 2, 3, 4 & 5 bedroom homes set in the picturesque village of Gnosall. Built to a high specification with spacious modern interiors and most homes boasting envious views across the open countryside.

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Call: 07805 894 292 Click: www.bellway.co.uk
Visit: Knights Court, Knighley Road, Gnosall ST20 0EW
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Bellway

Prices correct at time of going to press. Specification on site may differ. Pictures for illustration purposes only. *Terms and conditions apply. The prize is a total value up to £60. No cash alternative. Winners will be chosen at random from valid entries.

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- Stainless steel oven, hob & hood
- Fitted wardrobes & en-suite to master bedroom*
- Turfed garden & block paved driveway
- Chrome towel rail to bathroom

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Walsall **WV14 8AH**

KIER Help to Buy What House? Awards

www.kierhomes.co.uk

*En-suites to selected plots.

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Well-presented five-bed home at £800 a month

A WELL-PRESENTED unfurnished five-bedroomed detached family home in Wolverhampton Road West, Walsall lies in a popular area. It is available to rent through Redstones at £800 pcm.

With gas central heating and part double glazing it has a lounge, dining room, good-sized kitchen and a further reception room with laminate flooring leading to a conservatory and a ground floor shower room.

To the first floor are four good-sized carpeted bedrooms, a family bathroom with a stylish white suite and stairs leading to a fifth bedroom on the top floor which has a wooden floor.

There is a rear garden and full width off road parking to the frontage.

For further information contact Redstones on 01922 235350 or visit www.redstones.co.uk

5 STAR HOME BUILDER CUSTOMER SATISFACTION HBF 2014 HOME BUILDERS FEDERATION

Awarded 5 stars for customer satisfaction

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Help to Buy

Bellway

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- Turfed garden & block paved driveway
- Chrome towel rail to bathroom/en-suite

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17-11 * Terms and conditions apply, available on request. **En-suites to selected plots.

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WOLVERHAMPTON

HIMLEY CRESCENT

This is an impressive, detached bungalow, situated on a large corner plot, in the Goldthorn Park area of Wolverhampton. In brief the accommodation consists of an entrance porch, entrance hallway, an L shaped lounge/dining room, a fitted kitchen, a utility room, two conservatories, two bedrooms and a shower/wet room/w.c. Externally, there is a driveway providing off road parking for several vehicles, a garage underneath the property and gardens to the front, side and rear, which include a bar area and a Swedish style log built spa. The property benefits from double glazing and gas central heating, as well as benefiting from a centralised vacuum system. EPC Rating D

£350,000 WOLVERHAMPTON ✆01902 771511

PERTON

NEW

DUNSTER GROVE

● EPC Awaited ● Extended Four Bedroom Detached House● Lounge & Dining Room● Fitted Kitchen● Cloakroom W/C● Ensuite Shower Room To Master Bedroom● Further Family Bathroom● Double Glazing● Garage● Cul De Sac Location

£240,000 PERTON ✆ 01902 744111

PERTON

NEW

ARUNDEL GROVE

Epc Grade E●Three Bedroom Semi Detached House● Lounge & Dining Room● Fitted Kitchen● Downstairs Cloakroom W/C● Thru Hallway● Double Glazing● Gas Central Heating● Cul De Sac● Bathroom With White Suite● Garage● NO UPWARD CHAIN

£175,000 PERTON ✆ 01902 744111

PERTON

NEW

PEVERILL ROAD

● EPC Rating Grade D ● Extended Three Bedroom Semi Detached House● Very Well Presented● Lounge & Dining Room● Modern Style Breakfast Kitchen● Conservatory● Thru Hallway● Bathroom With White Suite● Double Glazing● Garage

£170,000 PERTON ✆ 01902 744111

WOLVERHAMPTON

NEW

BRADMORE ROAD

● EPC Rating D ● Extended Family Home ● Viewing Highly Recommended ● Two Reception Rooms ● Kitchen / Diner ● Downstairs WC ● Three Bedrooms ● Family Bathroom And Upstairs Shower Room ● Rear Garden With Outdoor Bar Area ● Front Driveway

£159,950 WOLVERHAMPTON ✆01902 771511

WOLVERHAMPTON

NEW

JEREMIAH ROAD

● EPC Rating C ● Modern Semi Detached Townhouse ● Viewing Recommended ● Lounge ● Kitchen - Dining Room ● Guest Cloakroom / Wc ● Master Bedroom With En Suite ● Three Further Bedrooms ● Family Bathroom / Wc ● Garage & Driveway & Gardens

£145,000 WOLVERHAMPTON ✆01902 771511

WOLVERHAMPTON

NEW

CORNWALL ROAD

● EPC Awaited ● Traditional Family Home ● Viewing Essential ● Well Presented Accommodation ● Through Lounge ● Kitchen/Dining Room ● Guest WC ● Three Bedrooms ● Contemporary Bathroom/ WC ● Front and Rear Gardens

£129,950 WOLVERHAMPTON ✆01902 771511

WOLVERHAMPTON

NEW

CHURCH ROAD

● Epc Awaited ● Traditional Family Home ● Viewing Essential ● Sitting Room With Fireplace ● Sitting / Dining Room ● Kitchen ● Two Double Bedrooms ● Stylish Shower Room / Wc ● Off Road Parking ● Gardens To Front & Rear

£99,950 WOLVERHAMPTON ✆01902 771511

HIGHLEY

NEW

WHITTLE CLOSE

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£47,500 PERTON ✆ 01902 744111

WEDNESFIELD

PHILLIPS AVENUE

●●OPEN DAY SATURDAY 22nd NOVEMBER 12:00 - 2:00pm●● AVAILABLE NOW●● Modern detached bungalow comprising of lounge, conservatory, kitchen, three bedrooms (en-suite shower room to master) and bathroom. Gardens to the front and rear and off street parking. EPC -

£169,995 WOLVERHAMPTON ✆01902 771511

WOLVERHAMPTON

ASHFIELD ROAD

● Epc Awaited ● Traditional Family Home ● Lounge ● Dining Room ● Conservatory ● Fitted Kitchen ● Covered Passage With Storage & WC ● Three Bedrooms ● Bathroom / Wc ● Good Sized Gardens

£119,950 WOLVERHAMPTON ✆01902 771511

BILSTON

KYNANCE GROVE

● Epc Rated B ● Modern Semi Detached Home ● Viewing Essential ● Entrance Hall ● Cloakroom & Wc ● Lounge / Dining Room ● Fitted Kitchen ● Two Bedrooms ● Bathroom / Wc ● Off Road Parking & Gardens

£110,000 WOLVERHAMPTON ✆01902 771511

WOLVERHAMPTON

FOURTH AVENUE

● Epc Rating D ● Spacious Accomodation ● Popular Residential Area ● Living Room ● Fitted Kitchen ● Three Bedrooms ● Family Bathroom ● Rear Gardens ● Driveway ● Gas Central Heating

£85,000 WOLVERHAMPTON ✆01902 771511

WOLVERHAMPTON

WHITTAKER STREET

● EPC Ratings Awaited ● Two Bedroom End Terraced ● Improved And Modernised Throughout ● Modern Kitchen/ Dining Room ● Downstairs WC ● Two Double Bedrooms ● Modern Bathroom Suite Upstairs ● Good Sized Rear And Side Garden ● Ample Off Street Parking To The Front ●

£84,950 WOLVERHAMPTON ✆01902 771511

WOLVERHAMPTON

MAXWELL ROAD

● EPC Rating Is Grade D ● Traditional Family Home ● Viewing Recommended ● Lounge ● Sitting / Dining Room ● Fitted Kitchen ● Rear Hall ● Bathroom / WC ● Three Bedrooms ● Rear Garden

£79,950 WOLVERHAMPTON ✆01902 771511

PERTON

REDUCED

NASH AVENUE

NO UPWARD CHAIN ●EPC Rating Is Grade C ●Extended Four Bedroom Detached House ●Lounge ●Dining Room ●Office/Further Reception Room ●Conservatory ●Utility Room ●Bathroom ●Ensuite To Master Bedroom ●Extensive Rear And Side Gardens

£260,000 PERTON ✆ 01902 744111

WOLVERHAMPTON

REDUCED

PENNHOUSE AVENUE

● EPC GRADE D ● Extended Semi Detached Home ● Viewing Essential ● Through Lounge ● Conservatory ● Stunning Kitchen / Dining / Family Room ● Utility Room & Secondary Utility / Wc ● Four Bedrooms ● Fantastic Four-piece Bathroom ● Delightful Cottage Gardens & Parking

£229,950 WOLVERHAMPTON ✆01902 771511

PERTON

REDUCED

THE STADDLESTONES

EPC GRADE D ●Executive Four Bedroom Detached House ●Lounge & Separate Dining Room ●Breakfast Kitchen ●Thru Hallway ●Bathroom With White Suite ●Garage ●Cul De Sac Location ●Double Glazing ●Downstairs Cloakroom W.C

£225,000 PERTON ✆ 01902 744111

WOLVERHAMPTON

REDUCED

COMPTON ROAD

● EPC Rated E ● Period Style Semi Detached ● Two Reception Rooms ● Spacious Kitchen - Dining Room ● Three Double Bedrooms ● Stylish Bathroom With Freestanding Bath ● Cellar ● Gardens To Front And Rear ● Viewing Essential

£179,950 WOLVERHAMPTON ✆01902 771511

WOLVERHAMPTON

REDUCED

ALDERSLEY AVENUE

● EPC GRADE E ● Substantially Extended Semi Detached ● Through Lounge Dining Room ● Lovely Extended Kitchen / Breakfast Room ● Second Reception Room / Sun Room ● Secondary Kitchen / Utility Room ● Guest Cloakroom / Wc ● Three Double Bedrooms ● Stylish Bathroom / Wc ●

£175,000 WOLVERHAMPTON ✆01902 771511

BILSTON

REDUCED

WELLINGTON ROAD

● Epc Awaited ● Substantial Period Semi Detached Home ● Viewing Essential ● Two Reception Rooms ● Breakfast Room ● Modern Kitchen And Utility Room

● Four Bedrooms ● Bathroom/ Wc & Separate Shower Room ● Double Length Garage & Driveway ● Large Rear

£174,950 WOLVERHAMPTON ✆01902 771511

PERTON

REDUCED

BENSON CLOSE

NO UPWARD CHAIN ●EPC Rating Is Grade D● Three Bedroom Semi Detached House● Lounge/diner● Kitchen● Dining Room● Double Glazing● Bathroom With White Suite● Southerly Facing Garden, Driveway

£143,000 PERTON ✆ 01902 744111

WOLVERHAMPTON

REDUCED

NORFOLK ROAD

● Epc Rating To Follow ● Traditional Style Detached Home ● Entrance Hall ● Reception Room ● Kitchen/dining Room ● Downstairs Wc ● Three Bedrooms ● Family Bathroom/ wc ● To The Second Floor There Are Two Attic Rooms ● Externally There Is A Courtyard To The Rear And A Garage/

£140,000 WOLVERHAMPTON ✆01902 771511

WOLVERHAMPTON

REDUCED

CANNOCK ROAD

● Epc Rated D ● Traditional Semi Detached Home ● Viewing Essential ● Lounge ● Open Plan Kitchen / Dining / Family Room ● Three Bedrooms ● Contemporary Style Shower Room / Wc ● Off Road Parking And Garage ● Front And Rear Gardens ● No Upward Chain

£129950 WOLVERHAMPTON ✆01902 771511

WOLVERHAMPTON

REDUCED

THE CHASE

● EPC Rated C ● Semi Detached Home ● Viewing Very Highly Recommended ● Lounge ● Dining Room ● Kitchen ● Conservatory ● Three Bedrooms ● Bathroom / WC ● Car Port And Off Road Parking

£125,000 WOLVERHAMPTON ✆01902 771511

WOLVERHAMPTON

REDUCED

GREEN DRIVE

● Epc Awaited ● Semi Detached Family Home ● Well Presented Accommodation ● Two Reception Rooms ● Extended Kitchen ● Three Bedrooms ● Family Bathroom / Wc ● Off Road Parking For Several Vehicles ● Garage And Gardens ● Viewing Essential

£119,950 WOLVERHAMPTON ✆01902 771511

WOLVERHAMPTON

REDUCED

ALLEN ROAD

● Epc Rated F ● Period Style Semi Detached Home ● Some Improvement Required ● Through Lounge / Sitting Room ● Dining Room ● Kitchen ● Four Bedrooms ● Family Bathroom / Wc ● Front Courtyard & Rear Garden

£109,950 WOLVERHAMPTON ✆01902 771511

PERTON

REDUCED

SUTHERLAND GROVE

EPC AWAITED ●Two Bedroom Ground Floor Maisonette● Lounge/diner● Kitchen● Two Double Bedrooms● Refitted Bathroom With Shower● Double Glazing● Gas Central Heating● Garage En Bloc, NO UPWARD CHAIN

£105,000 PERTON ✆ 01902 744111

PERTON

REDUCED

SEDGEFIELD GROVE

EPC Rating Is Grade C ●Two Bedroom Groundfloor Flat ●Lounge/Diner ●Kitchen ●Bathroom With White Suite ●Double Glazing ●Gas Central Heating ●Off Road Parking ●Communal Garden

£100,000 PERTON ✆ 01902 744111

WOLVERHAMPTON

REDUCED

BRUFORD ROAD

● Epc Rated E ● Traditional Family Home ● Nice Blend Of Modern & Traditional ● Dining Room ● Lounge ● Modern Kitchen ● Contemporary Style Shower Room / Wc ● Three Bedrooms ● Boarded Attic With Stairs And Skylight ● Rear Garden With Decked Seating Area.

£95,000 WOLVERHAMPTON ✆01902 771511

WOLVERHAMPTON

REDUCED

GUY AVENUE

● Epc Awaited ● Traditional Family Home ● Spacious Accommodation ● Lounge ● Kitchen / Dining Room ● Utility Are & Guest WC ● Four Bedrooms ● Family Bathroom ● Driveway ● Front And Rear Gardens

£92500 WOLVERHAMPTON ✆01902 771511

WOLVERHAMPTON

REDUCED

MANLOVE STREET

● Traditional Terraced Property ● Three Large Bedrooms ● Kitchen ● Two Reception Rooms ● Family Bathroom ● Rear Garden ● In Need Of Some ImprovemenT ● Awaiting EPC

£80,000 WOLVERHAMPTON ✆01902 771511

PERTON

REDUCED

MELROSE DRIVE

EPC Rating Is Grade E ●Ground Floor Flat ●One Bedroom ●Lounge ●Kitchen ●Bathroom W/C ●NO UPWARD CHAIN ●Electric Heating

£68,000 PERTON ✆ 01902 744111

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WILLENHALL £149,000

THREE BEDROOMS
ANDREW DRIVE
- Freehold
- Semi-detached
- Living Room
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Detached Garage
- Rear Garden
- EPC Band D

GOLDTHORN £169,000

TWO BEDROOMS
DUDDING ROAD
- FREEHOLD
- Detached bungalow
- Living Room
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Front and Rear garden
- Garage
- EPC Band E

TETTENHALL £170,000

TWO BEDROOMS
HIGHGROVE
- Mid terrace property
- Leasehold
- Over 55 retirement complex
- Living room
- Kitchen
- Downstairs WC
- Rear Garden and Parking
- EPC Band E

CODSALL £160,000

THREE BEDROOMS
MOATBROOK LANE
- Kitchen
- Living Room
- Bathroom
- Separate WC
- Front and rear gardens
- Garage
- EPC band D

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PROPERTY

Extended semi-detached property with no chain

AN extended semi-detached house in Cricket Meadow, Wolverhampton is for sale through Charles Darby at offers over £140,000 with no chain.

With double glazing and gas central heating it has an entrance porch, a lounge, separate dining room, contemporary fitted kitchen and utility room. To the first floor are three bedrooms and a bathroom with bath and shower cubicle. There are gardens to the front and rear and a drive provid-

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6 Brocton Close, Bloxwich, WS3 3QD	11:00am	11:00am
54 New Penkridge Road, Cannock, WS11 1HW	12:00pm	12:00pm
11 Pendle Hill, Hednesford, WS12 1LW	12:30pm	12:30pm
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LOT 1

29 YEW TREE LANE, TETTENHALL
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION
- Detached bungalow
- Two bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- Double glazing
- In need of renovation/improvement
- Potential for extension (subject to planning permission)
- EPC rating 43

Guide price £220,000 to £240,000

LOT 2

6 BROCTON CLOSE, BLOXWICH
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION
- Mid terraced house
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- Fully double glazed
- Ideal buy to let
- EPC rating 71

Guide Price: £80,000 to £90,000

LOT 3

LAND ADJ.39 WATTFIELD CLOSE,BRERETON
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION
- Individual building plot
- With benefit of planning permission to erect an individual detached two bedroomed house

GUIDE PRICE: £50,000/£55,000

LOT 4

11 PENDLE HILL, HEDNESFORD
LEASEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION
- Detached house
- Three bedrooms
- Part double glazed
- In need of improvement/ refurbishment
- EPC rating 30

LOT 5

54 NEW PENKRIDGE ROAD, CANNOCK
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION
- Detached house of character
- Three bedrooms
- Gas fired central heating (Not tested)
- Predominantly double glazed
- In need of improvement /refurbishment/ redevelopment
- Located in much sought after residential area of the town

GUIDE PRICE £150,000-£160,000

LOT 6

LAND OPP TRENT VALLEY TRADING ESTATE
With frontage to A51 Rugeley. Postcode of Trent Valley Trading Est WS15 2HQ
- FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION
- Paddock with frontage to the River Trent
- Area 2.60 Acres or thereabouts

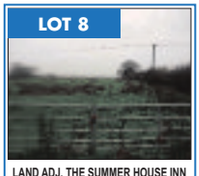
GUIDE PRICE £30,000/35,000

LOT 7

LAND ADJ.THE SUMMER HOUSE INN
HOLYHEAD ROAD, PLOT 1, COUNTY LANE, BONNINGALE, ALBRIGHTON (POSTCODE OF THE SUMMER HOUSE WV7 3AT)
- FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION
- Paddock extending to approximately 2.90 Acres or thereabouts.

GUIDE PRICE £30,000/£35,000

LOT 8



LAND ADJ. THE SUMMER HOUSE INN
HOLYHEAD ROAD, PLOT 2, COUNTY LANE, BONNINGALE, ALBRIGHTON (POSTCODE OF THE SUMMER HOUSE WV7 3AT)
- FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION
- Paddock extending to approximately 2.37 Acres or thereabouts.

GUIDE PRICE £30,000/£35,000

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- Some Double
- Glazing
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- Central Heating
- Some D/Glazing
- Garage
- Large Garden

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TETTENHALL

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- 3 bedrooms
- Central heating
- Double glazing
- Conservatory
- Garage
- Neat garden

OFFERS AROUND £184,995.00

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- 3 Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Central Heating

OFFERS AROUND £79,995.00

MILLFIELDS

WATERSIDE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE
- Commercial Unit
- Detached
- Numerous Uses

OFFERS AROUND £60,000.00

BRADMORE

CHURCH ROAD
- End Terraced
- 3 Bedrooms
- Double Glazing

OFFERS AROUND £99,995.00

FINCHFIELD

FINCHFIELD ROAD
- Bungalow
- 4 beds
- 2 bathrooms
- Central heating
- Double glazing
- Double garage

OFFERS AROUND £440,000.00

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OFFERS AROUND £399,950

CODSALL

● Particularly attractive Detached residence enjoying pleasant cul-de-sac position within conveniently short distance of the village centre and railway station ● Extended accommodation of generously proportioned layout and very comfortably appointed specification, ideal for modern family living ● Fitted Cloakroom off Hall. ● Large Lounge ● Sitting/Dining Room (approx. 19' x 11') ● 17ft Kitchen with excellent range of fittings ● Master Bedroom with extensive walk-in wardrobes and en-suite Shower Room ● Three further double Bedrooms ● House Bathroom ● Gas-fired central heating ● Double glazed windows ● 23ft Garage with Utility Room to rear ● Block-paved forecourt parking. Lovely landscaped gardens providing pretty setting (epc: E)

OFFERS AROUND £335,000

BOBBINGTON

SIX ASHES ROAD ● Delightful 3 Bed Barn Conversion in semi-rural setting with lovely rural views ● Character accommodation, stylishly presented and superbly appointed ● Hall ● Spacious 23ft Lounge with defined Dining Area ● Well appointed 16ft Breakfast Kitchen ● Three good sized bedrooms ● Luxurious Bathroom ● Manicured gardens to the front and rear with two garden sheds and two parking spaces at rear approached via private drive ● Propane Gas CH ● Primary schooling and Church nearby ● Close to Halfpenny Green Airfield ● Further shopping and schooling available in nearby Wombourne village (4 miles) (EPC: D)

OFFERS AROUND £299,950

COMPTON

● Particularly attractive Dormer-style Detached residence enjoying select cul-de-sac setting in highly favoured neighbourhood with excellent local amenities and easy access into city centre ● Extremely versatile three/four bedroomed accommodation, ideally suited to flexible family living and appointed most comfortably ● Porch and Hall ● Large L-shaped Living Room ● Sitting Room/Bedroom Three ● Dining Room/Bedroom Four ● Ground floor Bathroom ● Well equipped Breakfast Kitchen including integrated oven/hob/hood/dishwasher/fridge/freezer ● Side lobby with Laundry Area ● Two spacious first floor Bedrooms, each with fitted wardrobes ● Fully fitted first floor Shower Room ● Gas-fired central heating ● Double glazed windows ● Double-width Garage plus forecourt parking facilities ● Prettily landscaped south-facing rear garden enjoying considerable privacy ● (EPC:E)

OFFERS AROUND £284,950

WOMBOURNE

PLANKS LANE ● Conveniently positioned modern style 2 Bed Detached Bungalow in pleasantly established position handy for local facilities and public transport and not far from the picturesque village centre ● Well proportioned interior ● Hall ● 18ft Living Room with attractive fireplace and living flame gas fire ● Breakfast Kitchen ● Laundry ● 2 good sized Bedrooms ● Bathroom with modern style suite and shower ● Gas CH and uPVC double glazing ● Garage (18'8" x 9'1") ● Delightful rear garden featuring raised terrace and extensive lawned garden including carp pool ● Backdrop of mature trees ● Viewing highly recommended (EPC: tbc)

OFFERS AROUND £239,950

PERTON

● Elegant Detached residence standing impressively at head of cul-de-sac on development outskirts with field to rear ● Enlarged accommodation, very attractively presented with stylish decorative finishes and high standard of appointment ● Fitted Cloakroom off Hall ● Superb Living Room (approx. 250 sq.ft.) including feature fireplace ● Stylish Conservatory ● Informal Dining Area opening onto excellent 18ft. Kitchen with extensive fittings and built-in appliances plus adjacent Laundry ● Four Bedrooms (two with wardrobes) ● Bathroom including Shower ● Gas-fired central heating. Double glazed windows ● Block-paved forecourt parking facilities and 14ft Garage ● Lovely landscaped south-facing garden (EPC:D)

OFFERS AROUND £239,950

TETTENHALL

● Pleasantly positioned Detached residence enjoying cul-de-sac setting with convenient access to the Upper Green and its excellent amenities ● Nicely presented accommodation offering scope for some upgrading of specification to realise full potential ● Spacious Lounge ● Separate Dining Room ● Smart modern Kitchen ● Side Porch/Utility Area ● Three Bedrooms (two with built-in wardrobes) ● Dated Bathroom and separate Toilet ● Gas-fired central heating ● Double glazed windows ● Garage plus paviour-effect driveway parking facility ● Neatly landscaped gardens (EPC:D)

OFFERS AROUND £189,950

TETTENHALL

● Delightful Terraced Cottage in the exclusive Highgrove retirement complex set in lovely landscaped grounds and well placed to access amenities at Upper Green, Compton and Tettenhall Wood ● Comfortably proportioned accommodation is neatly presented and provides scope for a little updating of appointments to personal taste ● Fitted Cloakroom off Hall ● 23ft Living Room with Minster-style feature fireplace ● Kitchen with built-in Bosch oven/hob/hood ● Two double Bedrooms, both with wardrobes ● Bathroom ● Gas-fired central heating ● Majority double glazing ● Enclosed patio garden ● Designated parking space ● Leasehold ● Service Charge payable ● Minimum age limit 55 years ● (EPC:D)

OFFERS AROUND £169,950

PENN

Traditional-style semi offering excellent potential in very popular position off Pinfold Lane with good selection of amenities close at hand ● Dated specification provides scope for a scheme of modernisation and upgrading ● Worthwhile project ● Porch and Hall ● Two well proportioned Reception Rooms ● Basic Kitchen ● Three Bedrooms ● Bathroom including shower ● Partial gas-fired central heating ● Virtually full double glazing ● Driveway parking ● 85ft rear garden with westerly aspect (EPC:E)

OFFERS AROUND £134,950

WOMBOURNE

SWINFORD LEYS ● First Floor One Bedroom Maisonette with Garage in pleasant setting on fringe of Poolhouse Farm estate, handy for Sainsbury's store and convenient for the excellent village facilities and amenities ● In need of a scheme of updating but providing ideal basis for an improvement project for investment or first home purposes ● GF Entrance, stairs to landing ● Living Room ● Inner Lobby ● Kitchen ● Double Bedroom with wardrobe ● Bathroom ● uPVC double glazing and gas available but not presently connected ● Leasehold, 136 years unexpired ● ● NO UPWARD CHAIN ● ● (EPC:tbc)

OFFERS AROUND £84,950

A full selection of our properties can be viewed at: www.bartlams.co.uk

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Wombourne
House-On-The-Green High Street Wombourne WV5 9DN
Tel: (01902) 894141

Codsall
4 Station Road, Codsall WV8 1BX
Tel: (01902) 845215

Jackson LILE & CLOSE team

NEWBRIDGE AVENUE NEWBRIDGE

A particularly attractive Detached period style Family Residence of considerable character and charm enjoying a pleasant setting siding onto open playing fields. Tiled and oak framed Porch, reception hall, guests cloakroom, dining room with feature deep inglenook fireplace, extended lounge/sitting room, extended well fitted kitchen with breakfast area off, pantry/utility area, three first floor bedrooms, de-luxe bathroom with shower cubicle, staircase from landing gives access to loft room/bedroom 4 with potential dressing area off, CH, part uPVC DG, detached garage, gardens. Standing on a very wide frontage, there may be extension/possible development potential (subject to pp). NO UPWARD CHAIN. Energy Rating: F.

£315,000

TURNPIKE WAY COVEN

A beautifully presented and highly attractive Detached Family Residence appointed and decorated to a very high standard, enjoying a pleasant setting only a short distance from the village centre with many lovely country walks nearby. Tile canopy porch, hall, guests cloakroom, splendid lounge, large uPVC DG conservatory, superbly fitted dining kitchen, principal bedroom with ensuite shower room, two further bedrooms, deluxe family bathroom, uPVC DG, gas CH, car port, garage, landscaped gardens. Early sale desired. Energy rating: D

£249,500

MAGNOLIA COURT MUCHALL ROAD

A truly stunning and delightfully presented Penthouse Duplex Apartment of exceptional attraction standing in beautifully landscaped grounds in this highly sought after area. Hall entrance and inner hallway, fine lounge with French Doors to balcony, superbly fitted dining kitchen, two double bedrooms, ensuite shower room, deluxe bathroom, spiral staircase leads from the lounge to attractive galleried landing/bedroom 3/sitting room/study with large walk-in wardrobe and dressing room/play room off, CH, DG, secure covered parking area. No upward chain. Viewing highly recommended. Energy rating: C

£234,950

PENTLAND GARDENS COMPTON

An extended Detached Bungalow of much attraction and charm enjoying a lovely secluded setting in this highly popular neighbourhood. Standing in delightfully landscaped gardens, the property offers: Reception hall, guests cloakroom, fine 21ft lounge, refitted dining kitchen, utility, inner hall, two bedrooms, uPVC double glazed conservatory, deluxe shower room, uPVC DG, CH, garage, workshop/garden store. Viewing recommended. Energy rating: D

£199,950

CHETWYND ROAD

Stunning, very spacious and beautifully presented Victorian Character Residence of outstanding attraction, well situated in established area. Appointed and decorated to a very high standard, this fine property incorporates many lovely period features and offers: enclosed porch, impressive hall, lounge, dining room, morning room, fitted kitchen, utility, cloakroom, feature basement cinema room/sitting room/office, galleried landing, large principal bedroom (would easily divide to create 2 bedrooms), two further double bedrooms, deluxe bathroom, CH, large garage with workshop area, delightful sunny and private walled garden. Viewing really recommended. No upward chain. Energy rating: F

£199,950

GOSPEL ASH ROAD BOBBINGTON

On behalf of the Trustees of The Methodist Church, we are instructed to sell this impressive Victorian Chapel believed to have been built circa 1884 with later additions, situated in this popular semi rural area backing onto Halfpenny Green airfield. The property is offered for sale for religious use or other community facilities and services.

Offers invited

LIVINGSTONE AVENUE PERTON

A considerably extended and highly attractive Semi Detached Family House situated in a popular cul-de-sac setting only a short distance from Perton's excellent shopping centre. Tile canopy, porch, reception hall, lounge, extended dining area/fitted kitchen, utility room, cloakroom with w.c., four bedrooms, bathroom with white suite, CH, uPVC DG, large "L" shaped garage, generous sized rear garden. Early sale desired. Awaiting EPC

Offers, guide £185,000

WARDLOW CLO GOLDTHORN HILL

A Detached Family Residence believed to have been built in the early 1970s by Second City Homes, enjoying a very pleasant setting in this very popular cul-de-sac just off Coton Road. Local shops, schools and bus services are readily available and Wolverhampton City Centre and the University are within easy travelling distance. Reception hall, cloakroom, interconnecting lounge/dining room, kitchen, utility room, three bedrooms, bathroom, lawned front garden, paved drive affords ample parking space, car port, garage, landscaped rear garden, warm air central heating, uPVC double glazing. Energy rating: E

£178,500

COALWAY GARDENS MERRY HILL

An especially attractive and well presented Detached double fronted Bungalow of considerable appeal enjoying a pleasant setting in this popular cul-de-sac just off Coalway Road and handy for a wide range of local facilities. Enclosed porch, hall, lounge/dining area, breakfast kitchen, storage area/potential utility, enclosed lobby, two bedrooms, shower room, DG, gas CH, garage, delightfully laid out gardens. Early sale desired. Energy rating: D

£169,950

CRANMORE RD off TETTENHALL RD

An especially attractive Victorian Mid Terraced House of exceptional character and charm in highly convenient situation. Excellent local shops, schools and recreational facilities are readily available and Wolverhampton City Centre and the University are within easy reach. Porch, reception hall, cellar, attractive lounge, dining room, well fitted kitchen, utility area, conservatory/garden room, two bedrooms, deluxe bathroom, loft room, foregarden, attractive rear garden, brick garage, gas central heating. Energy rating: D.

£160,000

COALWAY ROAD MERRY HILL

Especially attractive and delightfully presented Semi Detached Family House of considerable charm well positioned for a wide range of local facilities. Reception hall, lounge, dining room, well fitted kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom, separate w.c., uPVC DG, CH, garage, beautifully laid out gardens. Energy rating: D

£159,995

WHITEHALL ROAD PENN

Standing on a wide and most impressive frontage in this very popular secluded cul-de-sac just off Sandringham Road, a most pleasing Semi Detached Family Residence offering: enclosed porch, hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, rear lobby with 2 large walk-in stores (potential utility room), three bedrooms, bathroom, garage, car port, uPVC DG, easy to maintain rear garden. Considerable extension possibilities (subject to PP). Energy rating: D

Offers £157,000

TRYSULL ROAD MERRY HILL

An attractive Semi Detached Family House of traditional character and appeal enjoying a pleasant setting in this very popular residential neighbourhood. Excellent local shops, schools and bus services are readily available and Wolverhampton City Centre and the University are within easy travelling distance. Porch, reception hall, attractive lounge, dining room, conservatory, extended kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom, front garden affording ample off road parking space, attractive rear garden, gas central heating, majority uPVC double glazing. Energy rating: D

£145,000

WINGFOOT AVENUE BUSHBURY

An attractively presented Semi Detached Family House standing on a wide frontage affording considerable extension possibilities (subject to pp), enjoying an elevated setting with far reaching views at the rear. Canopy porch, hall, lounge, dining kitchen, utility room with w.c. off, three bedrooms, bathroom, DG, CH, ample car parking space. Energy rating:

Offers guide £115,000

TETTENHALL ROAD

An altogether attractive and well appointed Ground Floor Apartment enjoying a lovely secluded setting in this fine Edwardian building, well positioned for a wide range of excellent local amenities. Stunning lounge with archway to fitted kitchen, double bedroom, bathroom, central heating, uPVC DG, communal parking and garden at the rear. Energy rating: E

Offers from £89,950

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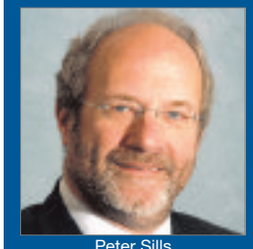
MEMBERS ONLY?

In September we reported on EU plans to regulate BTL mortgages and that the Government was receptive to the notion. Lenders are not impressed. Their trade body the CML has urged HM Treasury "not to go beyond the legal minimum" in implementing the EU Mortgage Credit Directive. It wants a restrictive definition of "consumer" which would exclude from regulation all those who have an existing rental property with or without a mortgage but would catch first time Landlords engaging in a BTL transaction and those who inherit property from a family member and are a first time landlord. It looks as though BTL could become a rather exclusive club!



Peter Sills

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PERSONAL and professional service

REGULAR contact and feedback

NO Sale - No Fee

*Applicants for rental properties are charged a non-refundable fee of £70.00 plus VAT each to cover credit checks and referencing.

TETTENHALL £374,000

STOCKWELL ROAD
This 4/5 bed accommodation includes; Cellar, utility and breakfast room as well as 2 large receptions. Majority DG windows and radiator CH (both where specified.) A driveway and double garage are situated to the rear of the well-kept gardens. Would benefit from a scheme of refurbishment but offers much potential. No upwards chain & offers invited for consideration (EPC 31 = F)

PENN £355,000

PENN ROAD
In a private yet convenient location South of the city. This period family residence of early Victorian design demonstrates former grandeur though now needs a scheme of re-modernisation. The 5 bed, 3 reception room property benefits from a cellar system, additional breakfast and garden rooms, utility and garage. With NO CHAIN AND OFFERS INVITED (EPC 33 = F)

WHEATON ASTON £339,000

SCHOOL ROAD
Individual detached in a country lane location. Fringe of village. Accessible to M6/M54. C.H. D.G. Spacious accommodation. Cloakroom. Large Reception areas. Kitchen. Laundry. 3 Double Bedrooms. Dressing Room with en suite. 2nd Bathroom. 2 Garages. No upwards chain - with offers invited. (EPC 36 = F)

SEDGLEY £279,000

ALDERDALE AVENUE
This tidy detached residence includes 2 reception rooms, modern kitchen, refitted guest WC, 5 bedrooms, master with en-suite. Family bathroom. Gas CH & DG (both where specified) garage, driveway and rear garden. Offers are invited for consideration. (EPC 61 = D)

WOLVERHAMPTON £219,950

BELLENCROFT GARDENS
A superbly appointed and well kept detached residence on the Western fringe of Wolverhampton. Accommodation includes; 2 reception rooms, modern kitchen, guest WC, 3 bedrooms and modern bathroom. With UPVC DG & radiator CH, garage, driveway and private gardens. (EPC 69 = C)

PENN £195,000

WESTMINSTER AVENUE
Situated in the sought after Penn, South West of Wolverhampton and with extended accommodation that includes four bedrooms, through lounge, plus breakfast room and much more. Perhaps of particular interest to some (those with kids, pets and cottage gardeners alike) will be the additional PLOT OF LAND which sits beyond the formal rear garden. (EPC 42 = E)

FINCHFIELD £189,995

WESTHILL
Set in desirable Finchfield, to the west of W-ton. This 3 bed detached is offered with no upwards chain and offers a clean 'blank canvas' for any buyer. With offers invited for consideration – viewing is most highly recommended.(EPC 34 = F)

BILSTON £154,950

MEADOW LANE
A truly exceptional double fronted 'true' Bungalow that is 'Walk-in-Ready'! Tastefully improved and fully versatile. Three Bedrooms, Lounge and Dining Room. Restyled bathroom. Gas C/Heating and D/Glazed. Much loved private established garden. Just a short walk from Coseley station linking to both Wolverhampton and Birmingham. NO ONWARD CHAIN. (EPC 57 = D)

WOLVERHAMPTON £144,950

CLARK ROAD
This 3 bedroom semi-detached home is offered with no upwards chain and benefits from D.G. and Radiator C.H. (both where specified) has a garage and driveway plus generous rear garden. It is also conveniently situated just west of the city centre and ideal for local amenities. Offers are invited. (EPC 58 = E)

BILBROOK £129,500

LIME TREE ROAD
Situated in a central position for the wide range of amenities and services that both Bilbrook and Codsall have to offer. This terraced family home offers 3 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms and a conservatory with Radiator CH and UPVC DG where specified. A rear garden and a frontage providing off road parking. Viewing is highly recommended. (EPC 63 = D)

WOLVERHAMPTON £124,999

PRESTWOOD ROAD
An interesting and individual detached residence that offers much potential. In need of some re-modernisation this spacious property benefits from majority uPVC DG and Rad' CH (both where specified). The accommodation includes 2 reception rooms and 3 double bedrooms + a garage, drive and gardens. Viewing is recommended. Offers are invited for consideration! (EPC 21 = F)

STOW HEATH £124,950

LABURNUM ROAD
An immaculate Detached Family home in tucked away backwater! Through Lounge/Diner, restyled Kitchen and Bathroom, attractive gardens and Single Garage! Gas C/Heating and D/Glazing. Book a viewing now! (EPC 57=D)

WILLENHALL £112,000

DEANS GATE
A splendid apartment of notable size. Modern Kitchen, Bathroom, 2 Bedrooms and an en-suite. With uPVC DG and programmable heaters. Juliet balconies, communal gardens and allocated parking spot. Very convenient for road access to the City, Willenhall, Walsall and beyond. No chain and including Fixs/Fits – Well worth a view. (EPC 65 = D)

BILSTON £109,950

NIGHTINGALE PLACE
An excellent improvement project in a first class cul de sac location! Three Bedrooms, Two receptions, only 100m from Villiers school! Double glazed and Gas Central Heating and with side Garage. Pleasant gardens General updating required. No upward chain. View it soon! (EPC 49 = E)

EAST PARK £107,000

THORNTON ROAD
A good mid terraced home, well-presented and offering deceptively spacious accommodation to include; 2 reception rooms, 3 bedrooms, useful veranda/utility/store. Pleasant gardens plus DG & Rad CH (both where specified). Popular and convenient location. Offers are invited and viewing is recommended. (EPC 66 = D)

WOLVERHAMPTON £109,000

SPRINGFIELD ROAD
A traditional semi within this convenient location, just outside the city centre and ideal for local schools, shops and road networks to surrounds including Wednesfield, New Cross, Bentley Bridge, Willenhall and Walsall. The 3 bedroom accommodation benefits from UPVC double glazing and radiator central heating. (Both where specified.) A good sized rear garden plus a front with driveway and side access. With no upwards chain, lots of potential plus offers invited - viewing is recommended. (EPC 60 = D)

WILLENHALL £105,000

UPLANDS ROAD
What a super little house! Would suit 'first-timer' or 'down-sizer'! Great location with good access to Bilston, Willenhall and Wolverhampton. Scope to add that personal touch but ready to move in. Hall, Lounge, Kitchen/Dining Room with TWO bedrooms and bathroom/WC. Low maintenance garden, central heating and double glazing. No Chain. (EPC 57 = D)

BILSTON £89,950

NELSON AVENUE
What a great project! A traditional family semi in cul de sac with off road parking and close to Metro and schools. Great for college too! Three Bedrooms and Two Receptions. Extension to kitchen. With majority double glazing and central heating with combi. No onward chain. (EPC 58 = D)

BILSTON £76,000

BIRMINGHAM NEW ROAD
A simple project to personalise to taste! Deceptive traditional terraced with brilliant access to station and buses. Hall, Lounge, Dining Room/Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms and massive bathroom. Combi boiler and garden front and rear. No onward chain. (EPC 61 = D)

WOLVERHAMPTON £84,950

EAST PARK WAY
This mid terraced home is offered with No Upwards Chain. With lounge, dining room, kitchen, lobby and WC plus store, 3 bedrooms and refitted bathroom, UPVC DG radiator CH (both where specified) plus tidy gardens and a dropped kerb ready for future driveway. A copy of a Coal Authority mining report is available for inspection on request. Offers are invited for consideration for a quick sale. (EPC 61 = D)

BILSTON £64,950

GREEN CROFT
An exceptionally well-appointed and spacious ground-floor maisonette style property with unrivalled access to Bilston town centre, bus and Metro stops. Two good bedrooms, lounge, newly restyled kitchen and modern bath/shower room. Gas central heating and double glazing. Ready to move into! No onward chain. (EPC 69 = C)

FINCHFIELD Rent £795pcm

FINCHFIELD ROAD WEST
Delightful quirky 3 bedroom mid terrace
Dining Room
Living Room
Dining kitchen
Utility
EPC 53 = E

PENN Rent £695pcm

HARTILL ROAD
3 BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED
CONSERVATORY
GARAGE
OFF ROAD PARKING
EPC 68 = D

CHAPEL ASH Rent £650pcm

RUPERT STREET
2/3 bedroom traditional terraced house
2 reception rooms
Beautifully decorated
Many original features
Pretty garden
EPC 63 = D

BRIDGNORTH Rent £600pcm

SEVERN STREET
2 BEDROOM MID TERRACE
POPULAR RESIDENTIAL LOCATION
OFF ROAD PARKING
GCH
DG
EPC 59 = D

FEATHERSTONE Rent £595pcm

Foxglove Close
Semi Detached
Two Bedrooms
Gas CH
UPVC Double Glazing
Unfurnished
Off Road Parking
EPC 54 = E

PENDEFORD Rent £525pcm

LEYBOURNE CRESCENT
2 bed semi bungalow
Gas CH and double glazing
Fitted Kitchen
Unfurnished
EPC 70 = C

WOLVERHAMPTON Rent £525pcm

TETTENHALL ROAD
Popular location
Refurbished
2 bedrooms
Communal gardens
Garage
EPC = TBC

WOLVERHAMPTON Rent £475pcm

STOWHEATH LANE
Mid Terrace
Two Bedrooms
Gas CH
UPVC Double Glazing
Unfurnished
Fitted Kitchen
EPC 62 = D

COSELEY Rent £425pcm

BOURNE STREET
Ground Floor purpose built flat
One bedroom
Popular residential location
EPC 73 = C

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NEW

EPC: D

ASHMORE PARK, WEDNESFIELD
GRIFFITHS DRIVE

- Pleasantly appointed semi detached family home in much sought after location
- Three good sized bedrooms
- Refitted 19ft dining kitchen & separate utility
- First floor bathroom with white suite
- Gardens to front & rear
- Double garage to rear of garden
- No upward chain
- Viewing highly recommended

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £124,995

WANTED

- **40ft x 20ft PARK HOMES AROUND COVEN FOR MRS P. CASH BUYER.**
- **2 BEDROOM FLATS IN CODSALL OR TETTENHALL FOR MRS S. SOLD SUBJECT TO CONTRACT.**
- **2 BEDROOM DOUBLE UNITS PARK HOMES IN COVEN FOR MR B. SOLD SUBJECT TO CONTRACT.**

PROPERTY OF THE WEEK

NEW

EPC: Tbc

ASHMORE PARK, WEDNESFIELD
KITCHEN LANE

- Spacious traditional semi detached in highly popular location
- Three good size bedroom
- Double glazed windows
- Gas fired central heating
- Lounge & dining room/sitting room
- First floor bathroom
- Off road parking for several cars
- No upward chain
- Viewing recommended

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £120,000

FREE MARKET APPRAISALS - Call us now on - WEDNESFIELD 01902 732324

CONSERVATORY

EPC: E

MILL LANE
WEDNESFIELD

- Magnificent detached bungalow in sought after location
- Two double bedrooms
- D/glazing & Gas c/heating
- Conservatory
- Tandem garage & driveway
- Superb landscaped garden to the front & rear
- Viewing essential!!

NEW PRICE £229,995

NEW

EPC:TBC

ESSINGTON
SNEYD LANE

- Extended traditional style semi,enjoying views over local countryside to the rear
- Gas central heating
- Upvc double glazing
- Two reception rooms
- Three bedrooms
- Bathroom and shower room
- No chain, viewing via agent!!

£190,000 OFFERS

NEW

EPC: C

ASHMORE PARK, WEDNESFIELD
BARNARD ROAD

- Beautifully presented end town house in much sought after location
- Two Double bedrooms
- Upvc d/glazing & gas c/heating
- Refitted breakfast kitchen & first floor bathroom
- Pretty enclosed rear garden
- Block paved forecourt
- Ideal first time buy

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £112,000

REDUCED

EPC: C

POPE ROAD
WOLVERHAMPTON

- Traditional style semi detached family home
- Much improved accomodation
- Three good size bedrooms
- Refitted kitchen & bathroom
- UPVC d/glazing & gas c/heating
- No upward chain
- Ideal family home or buy to let investment!!

NOW OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £105,000

EPC: B

STAMPY DUTY PAID

WHEATON ASTON
PLOT 7, THE TIBBERTON

- STAMP DUTY PAID IF RESERVED BEFORE CHRISTMAS
- ASSISTED MOVE AVAILABLE
- PART EXCHANGE AVAILABLE
- 3 BEDROOM DETACHED HOME WITH GARAGE
- CALL FOR FURTHER DETAILS ON 01902 788188

£275,000

EPC - tbc

REGISTER NOW

OXLEY
OFF STAFFORD ROAD

- NEW BUILD DORMER BUNGALOWS.
- DEVELOPMENT OF 8 PROPERTIES.
- INCENTIVES FOR RESERVING OFF PLAN.
- SHOW HOME OPENING IN DECEMBER.
- CALL FOR MORE DETAILS ON 01902 788188.

Prices from £175,000

NEW

EPC - tbc

PENN
WARSTONES ROAD

- THREE BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED
- LOUNGE & DINING ROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- DOUBLE GLAZING & CENTRAL HEATING
- ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN

£124,950

NEW

EPC - E

OXLEY
KIPLING ROAD

- FOUR BEDROOM TERRACE
- LARGE LOUNGE
- MODERN FITTED KITCHEN
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- DOUBLE GLAZING & CENTRAL HEATING
- DRIVEWAY PARKING
- REAR GARDEN

£90,000

NEW

EPC - D

FALLINGS PARK
CROFT LANE

- THREE BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED
- LOUNGE
- FITTED KITCHEN
- SUN ROOM & UTILITY ROOM
- DOUBLE GLAZING & CENTRAL HEATING
- ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
- DRIVEWAY PARKING

£90,000

REDUCED

EPC - E

FALLINGS PARK
CANNOCK ROAD

- FIVE BEDROOM SEMI & ADJOINING LAND
- LOUNGE, DINING ROOM & SITTING ROOM
- TWO BATHROOMS
- FITTED KITCHEN
- DOUBLE GLAZING & CENTRAL HEATING
- ADJOINING LAND INCLUDED

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Wolverhampton Chronicle Thursday, November 20, 2014

Jimny gets a freshen up

By Anthony Martyn

Suzuki has given some specification upgrades to its highly popular Jimny compact 4x4 model, aimed at refreshing the appeal of the iconic model in the Suzuki range.

First introduced in 1998, Jimny has built up an established, tough and capable reputation amongst its 22,000 loyal owners in the UK with many currently on their third or even fourth new Jimny.

Steel Silver and Khaki Green have been added to the metallic paint range of five shades available for the higher specification SZ4 model with three metallic and one solid colour available for SZ3. Metallic paint is a £399 option.

A new seat fabric has been adopted for the SZ3 and SZ4 features new design 15-inch alloy wheels finished in dark Silver.

In line with EU regulations both SZ3 and SZ4 models now have a new design instrument cluster that includes a Tyre Pressure Monitoring System (TPMS) for added safety as well as a Gear Shift Indicator (GSI) to help the driver keep fuel consumption to a minimum.

The 2015 model is also equipped with ESC (Electronic Stability Control) as standard.

Jimny has a neat and practical look and since sales began in 1998 it has accumulated a loyal following of customers who enjoy a quirky alternative to a supermini or crossover SUV.

'First introduced in 1998, Jimny has built up an established, tough and capable reputation.'

Jimny exceeds expectations off road whilst still being more than capable in any urban area, ideal for customers who want the best of both worlds.

The all-alloy 16 valve 1.3-litre engine has variable valve timing, ensuring lively performance, and strong fuel economy with the manual transmission model returning an official 39.8mpg in combined cycle driving (38.7mpg for the automatic); respective CO2 outputs are 162 and 167g/km.

All Jimny models are covered by a three-year/60,000-mile new vehicle warranty, one year AA Suzuki Assistance, providing 24-hour UK and European roadside assistance, recovery and associated services; and by a six year perforation warranty.

On the road prices include VAT, delivery to dealer, number plates and First Registration Fee.

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Pulsar from Nissan could be the ticket for plenty of car buyers

By Ian Donaldson

Nissan is scratching a seven year itch and entering a vital part of the car market where it's been absent since 2007, while it made a mint with a couple of SUVs.

Now that the Qashqai and Juke are pulling in punters like there's no tomorrow, it's high time to put up something against the like of Ford's Focus, helping fill a part of the market that accounts for one in three new cars sold in the UK.

The result of much midnight oil burning is the Pulsar, designed and sold only in Europe – and built in Barcelona.

This five-door hatchback follows the same design path chosen by competitors and majors on space and the chance to add the sort of technology usually associated with dearer cars.

That can include four cameras that give a bird's eye view of what's around the car and automatic emergency braking which can stop the car at low speeds before you hit the vehicle ahead.

Designed

The Pulsar looks smart from the outside and obviously designed with a European twist (not the eastern one you might expect from a Japanese car maker) and is clean and uncluttered inside, if a bit too obviously plastic in some areas.

Nissan has pushed front and rear wheels further apart than in any obvious rival and the resultant space in the back will easily managed a six-footer sitting behind a similarly tall driver.

Only a potential owner will know how useful that feature will prove, with more than half all Pulsar sales destined for the fleet market, where they'll spend a lot of time with only the drive aboard.

The present Pulsar range is simplicity itself with just one petrol engine (1.2 litres) and a single diesel (1.5 diesel) on offer, although a sportier petrol version looks a certainty before too long.

Prices range from £15,995 and top out at £21,945, which includes the £1,600 premium asked for diesel models. About half of all Pulsar buyers are expected to take the petrol route, with the Acenta (£17,645) likely to be the highest selling trim line.

That model comes with the automatic safety brakes already mentioned, along with automatic lights and wipers. Every Pulsar has air conditioning and Bluetooth phone connection, while the N-TEC model tested here adds 17 inch alloy wheels, satellite navigation, DAB radio and cruise control.

Economy

In a car world where diesel is king on the economy front it's too easy to forget the charms of petrol power; displayed here by an engine that stays hushed even from a cold start and pulls smoothly from such low engine speeds you'll stay in higher gears longer, to the benefit of fuel economy.

Given a firm request for maximum urge, the Pulsar proved a surprisingly engaging car on some familiar back roads, all the time staying comfortable on surfaces I know (from bitter experience) can unsettle a lot of other machines.

After an hour's spirited motoring the trip computer (part of a nicely legible dash readout) showed 38mpg.

That's about what I expected and was easily bettered by slowing down and changing up when the dash arrow prompt told me to.

That resulted in an impressive 52mpg, showing once again that you can have fun or frugality, but not both together.

The diesel would undoubtedly top that figure without trying hard, but remember the £1,600 extra it will cost.

So for lots of drivers the new Pulsar is going to be just fine in a model that costs less than might.

Can't argue with that.

TESTED

Nissan Pulsar 1.2 DIG-T N-TEC

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Economy: The Pulsar can do 56.5mpg

Insuance group: 10

Price: £18,995

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*Finance subject to status. Guarantor and indemnitor may be required. Finance Fund Credit. Deposit allowance only available when financed with Ford Credit. Customers will receive a £500 deposit contribution and have the opportunity to defer their first payment until February 2015. Cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. Terms and conditions apply, please ask for full details. Vehicles shown for illustration purposes only. This supersedes all previously advertised manufacturer's promotions. Cars must be registered by 31st December to qualify. Information correct at time of publication E&OE.

DRIVETIME

Ford's popular Kuga SUV gets boost with an update

The Blue Oval car maker Ford has updated its popular Kuga sports utility vehicle with improved engines and more in-car technology.

Under the bonnet the flagship Kuga diesel model receives a horsepower boost, with the 2.0-litre motor's output now 180 horsepower – 17 more than before. It's also cleaner, with the 2.0-litre diesel family now producing less CO2.

It's the same story on the petrol front, with Ford swapping the Kuga's 1.6-litre EcoBoost engine for a 1.5-litre unit and reducing CO2 emissions to 143g/km from 154g/km.

Improved

Alongside the engine upgrades, Ford has improved the car's kit levels. The firm's innovative SYNC with AppLink multimedia interface will now enable drivers to voice-activate apps, while keeping their eyes on the road and their hands on the wheel. These already include leading music-streaming services Spotify, Audioteka, Glympse and Radioplayer.

Furthermore, the Kuga can be had with adaptive cruise control including forward alert, which warns drivers if they are travelling too close to the vehicle in front.

Another standard technology is the tyre pressure monitoring system, which warns if any of the tyres lose significant pressure during a journey.

Further available technologies include hands-free tailgate, blind spot information system, active city stop, lane keeping aid, lane keeping alert, auto high beam, driver alert and traffic sign recognition.

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61 Plate

price when new £23150 — our price £8699

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11/11 Toyota Avensis 2.0 D-4D TR Nav	£10,199
13/62 Vaux Insignia 1.8 VVT Exclusiv 5dr	£8,999
11/11 Vaux Insignia 2.0 CDTi 130 Exclusiv	£7,999
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13/63 Vaux Insignia 2.0 CDTi 140 E/F SE	£12,999
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11/61 Vaux Insignia 2.0 CDTi 160 E/F Elite	£10,799
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13/13 Vaux Insignia 2.0 CDTi 160 SE 5dr	£11,699
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59 Plate

price when new £25158 — our price £10999

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12/62 Vaux Insignia 2.0 CDTi 160 SRi 5dr	£11,299
11/61 Vaux Insignia 2.0 CDTi 160 SRi 5dr A	£9,799
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14/14 Vaux Astra Est 1.6 VVT Elite 5dr	£12,999
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7.9% Representative APR

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07 Plate

price when new £7367 — our price £3999

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09/09 Ford Focus 1.6 Zetec 5dr	£5,699
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12/12 Toyota Aygo 1.0 VVT-i Fire 5dr	£5,999
11/61 Toyota IQ 1.0 VVT-i 2 3dr	£5,999
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08/08 Ford Mondeo 2.0 Zetec 5dr Sp Pk	£6,199
12/61 Vaux Agila 1.2 E/F SE 5dr	£6,199
11/11 Vaux Corsa 1.2 Excite 5dr	£6,199
12/12 Vaux Corsa 1.2 Exclusiv 5dr E/T	£6,199
10/60 Vaux Meriva 1.4 Exclusiv 5dr	£6,199
10/60 Citr C3 1.4 VTR+ 5dr	£6,299
12/61 Peug 207 1.4 Spium 3dr	£6,299
11/11 Ren Clio 1.2 Dyn TomT 3dr	£6,299
10/60 Ren Meg 1.5 dCi 86 Exp 5dr	£6,299
11/61 Vaux Corsa 1.2 SE 5dr	£6,299
10/60 Vaux Corsa 1.3 CDTi E/F Energy 5dr	£6,299
12/62 VW Up 1.0 Take Up 3dr	£6,299

11/61 Peug 207 1.4 Spium 5dr	£6,399
11/11 Citr C3 1.4 HDi VTR+ 5dr	£6,499
12/12 Fiat Panda 0.9 TwinAir Lounge Nav	£6,499
11/61 Fiat Punto Evo 1.2 MyLife 5dr	£6,499
12/62 Ford Ka 1.2 Edge 3dr	£6,499
13/63 Hyundai I10 1.2 Class 5dr	£6,499
11/61 Kia Picanto 1.0 2 5dr	£6,499
07/57 Mini Cooper 1.6 3dr Ch/Pk P/Roof	£6,499
11/61 Peug 207 1.4 Active 5dr	£6,499
10/10 Peug 308 1.6 HDi 90 Sp 5dr	£6,499
11/61 Ren Clio 1.6 VVT GT Line TomT 5dr A	£6,499
11/11 Ren Clio Sp Tourer 1.6 VVT Dyn Tom	£6,499
11/61 Ren Meg 1.6 VVT I-Music 5dr	£6,499

11/61 Ford Fiesta 1.4 TDCi Edge 3dr — you save £6741

61 Plate

price when new £12740 — our price £5999

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10/10 Vaux Astra 1.4 Exclusiv 5dr	£6,499
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12/62 VW Up 1.0 Take Up 3dr	£6,499
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11/11 Ren Meg 1.6 VVT Bizu 5dr	£6,599
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10/60 Vaux Astra Sp Hatch 1.6 VVT SRi	£6,599
11/61 Vaux Corsa 1.2 Excite 3dr	£6,599
13/62 Vaux Corsa 1.2 SXi 3dr	£6,599
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13/63 Citr C1 1.0 VTR 5dr	£6,699
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11 Plate

price when new £14335 — our price £6499

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13/13 Citr C3 Picasso 1.6 HDi 90 VT 5dr	£6,999
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Wolverhampton Chronicle Thursday, November 20, 2014

Classic is now up to date

By John Griffiths

Remember those sounds of the Sixties? The Beatles, the Who, the Rolling Stones, Cream – and the cream of British motorcycles which ruled the roads.

There's little on today's roads, apart from an E-Type Jag perhaps, which is so evocative of that golden age of British transport as the Triumph Bonneville.

But nostalgia is at least in part about looking back through rose tinted spectacles (and I'm not just talking hippies) so sometimes we forget the downsides like awful drum brakes, lights measured in a handful of candlepower and oil leaks.

Thankfully, today's Triumph engineers lost the specs, rose tints and all, and created a new Bonneville which respects the 60s icon but is thoroughly modern, featuring such things as a bigger, fuel-injected engine and disc brakes to make it a thoroughly useable, enjoyable machine for the 21st Century.

The homage to two eras starts with the 865cc, overhead cam parallel twin-engine – original Bonnies were the same configuration but 650s, later enlarged to 750cc.

Look at the modern block and you'll see what appears to be a pair of carbs but in fact they conceal a thoroughly modern fuel-injection system and electronic ignition which is more efficient, improving throttle response while reducing fuel consumption and exhaust emissions.

And it starts more easily, too, with the press of a button and not a kick-start (which on old big bikes would occasionally kick you back).

The 2014 Bonnie retains the classic, chromed 'peashooter' style twin exhausts but they've been modified to produce a more authentic soundtrack.

It does hark back to the 60s and there's nothing else quite like it: a bass duet to accompany your journey with an occasional 'pop pop' chorus as you shut off the power. To me it has so much more character than modern four-cylinder or V-twin unit.

You also get disc brakes front and rear – only a single disc at the front but it performs competently for a bike of this weight and performance.

Heritage

Triumph calls the bike a classic and that's a good as description as any. It's not a sports or adventure bike and in other manufacturer's hands its nature could be described as a 'cruiser' but the Midlands company has a rich heritage of its own so, thankfully, didn't have to produce a Harley-Davidson lookalike.

Many riders will find the Bonnie's performance and handling better than some of that ilk, too. It has a gutsy 67bhp and 68Nm of torque from relatively low revs which means there's enough get up and go to feel a powerful tug on your arms as you press on up through the gears. Top (fifth) gear is set quite high, for quieter cruising and economy.

Top speed is estimated at 115mph, which is more than enough for a bike designed for British roads and not track days, and there's plenty of oomph.

TESTED

Triumph Bonneville T100
Engine: 865cc, air-cooled parallel twin with 67bhp and 68Nm of torque. Five-speed gearbox and chain final drive.
Economy: urban 51.2mpg; constant 56mph 68mpg; constant 75mph 55.6mpg (fuel tank 16 litres).
Warranty: Two years, unlimited mileage.
Insurance: Group 9 of 17.
Price: £7,599.

It's a naked bike, too, so wind pressure (and the constraints of the law) tends to restrict any temptation to press on for the magical 'ton up' of 60s bikers, and could be tiring on long motorway runs.

OK, you could no doubt find an after-market screen but quite honestly it would ruin the classic lines of the Bonnie which Triumph have worked so hard to preserve, and which is a compelling reason for buying one.

The test bike, a top of the range T100 with spoked chrome wheels, chrome crankcase and gearbox covers, a chrome chain guard and a colour scheme of fusion white with gold coach lines, certainly turned heads (including mine).

I found it a charismatic bike just to look at, as well as to ride on my 150-mile trip through Shropshire and Mid-Wales, the T100 growing on me as I explored its capabilities.

It averaged around 60mpg, so not an expensive day out either

It's not a heavy bike and doesn't have (or in fact need) the big fat tyres you'd expect on a supersports machine, but its straight line stability is impressive and it tracks accurately through the corners too.

The suspension (telescopic forks at the front and twin, chromed spring shocks at the rear) cope well with rough b-roads, providing a reasonable balance between ride comfort and competent handling.

I found it inspired confidence and, like a dog owner is said to grow to look like their pet, the Bonneville shared some of its character with me which made for a relaxed, stress-free ride.

The traditionally-styled seat is flat rather than sculpted but rather well padded, while the high bars and well-placed controls allow for an upright riding position comfortable for longer rides. The extra padding is new, and certainly welcome for those of us heading for the hills, or the beach.

There's plenty of room for a pillion passenger, and the latest T100 now gets a sturdy chrome grab handle to add to their sense of security.

The basic Bonneville costs £6,799 while the T100 comes in at £7,599, with the extra buying you the traditional wire-spoked wheels and paint schemes, the distinctive engine and chain guard chrome features, and protective rubber gaiters covering the front suspension, plus large twin analogue dials (speedo and rev counter).

If you're not keen on all that chrome, there's a T100 Black option.

The Bonneville name comes from the famous salt flats in Utah where once Triumphs successfully challenged for world motorcycle speed records.

Modern Bonnies have been produced by today's Triumph company at Hinckley, Leicestershire, since 2001 and are sold all over the world, proving that it isn't just nostalgia and flying the flag for Britain's motorcycling heritage which have made it such a big seller.

It no doubt strikes a chord with those who appreciate such things, but it would hardly be so popular if Triumph hadn't created an excellent blend of classic styling with modern technology and capability.

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Vauxhall is taking soft option with little ADAM

By David Banner

It's genuinely hard to know where to start with this one, but we really ought to get the name out of the way first. The Vauxhall ADAM Rocks Air must go down as one of the strangest car names since the Japanese discovered Google Translate and stopped sending us Pantry Boy Supremes and Giga Light Dumps. But what is this thing?

If you hadn't noticed, Vauxhall has tried to claim a share of the niche small car market occupied by the likes of the Fiat 500 or the Citroen DS3. The trouble is, the ADAM is somewhat hampered by a badge that smacks of Luton rather than Turin and sales have been slow. The ADAM Rocks Air is a soft-top version styled with offroad-style design cues.

The ADAM Rocks Air is available with a choice of three engines. The 70PS 1.2-litre engine and the 87PS 1.4-litre engine we've seen before and very serviceable units they are. Of more interest is the introduction of a 1.0-litre three-cylinder powerplant, good for 115PS thanks to its turbocharger. It's the first Vauxhall to get this engine, which is the mainstay of the fourth generation Corsa range.

When plumbed into the open-topped ADAM, it's capable of getting to 62mph in under 10 seconds. Unlike most three-cylinder units, it's been designed to offer excellent refinement, with the characteristic warble of a three-pot only really audible when you mash the throttle. With 170Nm available at just 1,800rpm, it's a more relaxing engine than you'd imagine, albeit with a slightly elastic feel to the throttle response.

Retuning

The Rocks Air model adds another 15mm to the stock ADAM's ride height. This isn't going to equip you to tackle the Dakar Rally, as underneath it's still the same front-wheel drive chassis architecture, but Vauxhall has done a thorough job in retuning the springs, shocks and roll bars. Therefore this Rocks Air version still corners well and ride quality isn't bad either.

In fact, you'd be hard pushed to feel much in the way of difference. Ease of use on urban roads is enhanced by a 'city' mode, which increases the electronic power steering system's assistance at lower speeds.

Believe the press bumf and you might get excited that Vauxhall has created something genuinely good and original. Read between the lines a little and you might suspect that the parts that are good are not original, and the parts that are original aren't that good. Does the market need a soft-top faux-by-four? Didn't automotive evolution kill this genre off at least ten years ago, with most of us hoping it would never be resurrected?

That said, Mark Adams' team has done a good job in the styling of this car. What sounds utterly ludicrous on paper works surprisingly well in the metal, with strong lines and a lovely chutzpah to its design. The all-road-style wheelarches work well with the 'floating' roof which is visually disconnected from the body.

Button

The electric folding canvas roof is operated via a button located in the front area of the headliner and folds back neatly on to the C-pillars in just seven seconds. The roof can be opened or closed while the car is moving at up to 85mph. The boot keeps the full opening of a hatchback and loading volume remains untouched. The entire roof module is acoustically tuned for noise insulation inside the cabin and the robust, three-layer fabric has a neoprene centre for weatherproofing and durability. The folding canvas roof is available in a choice of two exterior colours – Black or Sweet Coffee.

The ADAM Rocks Air ensures that it's not going to freeze you on cold winter mornings. It's the only vehicle in its class to offer the comfort of a heated steering wheel, driver and front passenger seats. Other interesting items of standard equipment include a hill start assist which maintains the brake function for about two seconds after the driver has taken his/her foot off the brake pedal. This prevents Rocks Air from rolling back when starting on a slope or, when driving off from traffic lights or a parking spot on a hill.

The standard infotainment equipment is a CD 3.0 BT system, with radio and a MP3/WMA compatible CD player featuring Bluetooth and USB connections, as well as a hands-free function.

Go for the 1.2-litre petrol engine and you'll see economy figures of 53.3mpg with emissions of 125g/km. The 1.4-litre powerplant offers up another 17PS with very little efficiency penalty, netting 52.3mpg and 126g/km. The star of the show is the 1.0-litre turbo unit which gets the best economy at 55.4mpg, the lowest emissions at 119g/km and is comfortably the quickest and most refined to boot. A 38-litre fuel tank rather caps the range a little, but the ADAM was never designed to be a GT car.

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10am till 12 noon.
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t.v. / home entertainment

service

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specialists at your service

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THE ORIGINAL AERIAL SPECIALIST, THE BEST!
Est 1955 - 59 years at the top!
Recommended by thousands
Genuine, honest, 100% reliable
WE HAVE WATCHED THEM ALL COME AND GO
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Work Guaranteed
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All areas covered
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plumbing & heating

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HIGH QUALITY 18mm CABINETS AS STANDARD
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4 Pets & Animals

equestrian corner

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Adults & Children over 9,
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All neutered, innoculated and chipped.
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2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree.
Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

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5 Business & Farming

business opportunities

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business opportunities

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commercial premises

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Flexible terms available
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6 Property

properties wanted

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WILL PAY 15K MORE
Complete within 7 days
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wolverhampton properties

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accommodation to let

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8 Motoring

cars over £1500

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FORD FIESTA 1.2 petrol, 55 Reg, 2006, 50,000 miles, full MoT, 2 owners, fsh, immaculate, £1,595. 07908 649713.

MERCEDES C CLASS Advantage, 2001, silver, fsh, excellent condition, same owner since 2002, full MoT, £1,395 ono. 07913 981460.

MERCEDES C180 Komp Classic SE Auto, 05 (54), 49k, Silver, usual refinements. SH. Full MoT. Immaculate. £3,995. 07970 705466. (T).

PEUGEOT 207, 2007, 72k miles 1.4l, 3 door, silver, petrol, a/c, 6 months MoT, CD/MP3 stereo, cambelt change 2014, £2,150 ono. 07947 872195.

VAUXHALL CORSA SXI 2002, 51,000 miles, 1.2L black, fsh, long Mot. HPI clear,£1,250 ono. 07961 513840

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VAUXHALL CORSA Club 1.4 auto, 58 reg, blue, 32k, long MoT, recent service. £3,450. 01902 567630.

VAUXHALL INSIGNIA SRi NAV160 CDTi. 2009, silver, 43,600 miles. 20" alloys, FSH. Full MoT. £6,450. Genuine calls only. 07759 060357.

VW GOLF GT, FSi, 2.0L, 04, MoT Aug 2015, recent cam belt, 155k, blue, service history, £1,650 ono. 01902 847277. 07548 511612.

VW POLO 1.2, 2011, 61 plate, 11 months MoT, good condition. 59,500 miles, reliable. £5,000 ono. 01902 745771/ 07791 076789.

VW POLO 1.2E 56 reg, red, 5-dr, 67K, PAS, CD, CL, park camera, MoT, history / just serviced, £3,200. 01384 258061. 07759 237779.

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CITROEN SAXO VTR, 51 reg, full MoT, 85k, alloys, SR, CL, PAS, silver, economical, £475. 07804 168151.

CITROEN XANTIA Diesel, HDi, X reg, 88k, tow bar, excellent condition, long MoT, £695 ono. Willenhall 07850 090075.

FORD FIESTA LX 2004, 3dr, 87,000 miles, MoT, air bags, EW, AC, one previous owner, £1,500. 01902 655586.

FORD KA 02, 53,000 miles, MoT May, 2015, good runner, £550. 01902 457379 or 07853 255059.

FORD KA 2006, 1.3 petrol, 72,500 Miles, Red, MoT until Aug 2015, one owner, part service history. £900 07568 137388

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TREVOR WARD (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 214 Kitchen Lane Ashmore Park Wolverhampton WV11 2HZ, who died on 23/08/2014, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 30/01/2015, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
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WALTER ROGER ALLEN (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 10 The Broadway Wombourne Wolverhampton Staffordshire WV5 0HY, who died on 09/05/2014 are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned on or before 30/01/2015, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
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HIGHWAYS AGENCY

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
THE A4510 TRUNK ROAD (M54 JUNCTION 2) (LINK ROADS)
(40 MILES PER HOUR SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2014

The Secretary of State for Transport hereby gives notice that he has made an Order under section 84(1)(a) and (2) and 122A of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 on the A4510 Trunk Road in the County of Staffordshire.

The effect of the order, which comes into force on 28 November 2014, will be to impose a 40 miles per hour speed limit on the new roundabouts and link roads provided as part of The M54 Motorway (Junction 2 Improvements i54 Strategic Employment Area) (Trunk Roads) Order 2012, giving access to and egress from the i54 development from and to Junction 2 of the M54.

A copy of the Order, together with a plan illustrating the proposals and a Statement of the Secretary of State's reasons for making the Order, may be inspected during opening hours at Codsall Library, South Staffordshire District Council Offices, Wolverhampton Road, Codsall, WV8 1PX; Staffordshire County Council, Number 1 Staffordshire Place, Stafford, ST16 2LP; or may be seen at, or obtained by application to, the Highways Agency, The Cube, 199 Wharfside Street, Birmingham, B1 1RN.

For further information contact Karen Eustace on 0121 678 8420.

Mike Lloyd, a Higher Executive Officer in the Highways Agency

HIGHWAYS AGENCY

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
THE A4510 TRUNK ROAD (M54 JUNCTION 2) (LINK ROADS)
(24 HOURS CLEARWAY) ORDER 2014

The Secretary of State for Transport hereby gives notice that he has made an Order under section 1(1), 2(1) and (2), 4(1) and 122A of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 on the A4510 Trunk Road in the County of Staffordshire.

The effect of the order, which comes into force on 28 November 2014, will be to prohibit vehicles waiting at any time on the new roundabouts and link roads provided as part of The M54 Motorway (Junction 2 Improvements i54 Strategic Employment Area) (Trunk Roads) Order 2012, which give access to and egress from the i54 development from and to Junction 2 of the M54.

A copy of the Order, together with a plan illustrating the proposals and a Statement of the Secretary of State's reasons for making the Order, may be inspected during opening hours at Codsall Library, South Staffordshire District Council Offices, Wolverhampton Road, Codsall, WV8 1PX; Staffordshire County Council, Number 1 Staffordshire Place, Stafford, ST16 2LP; or may be seen at, or obtained by application to, the Highways Agency, The Cube, 199 Wharfside Street, Birmingham, B1 1RN.

Any person wishing to question the validity of, or of any provision contained in, the Order, on the ground that it is not within the powers with respect to the Order conferred by the above Act, or on the ground that any requirement of, or of any instrument made under, any provision of that Act has not been complied with in relation to the Order may, within 6 weeks of 20 November 2014, apply to the High Court for the suspension or quashing of the Order or of any provision contained therein.

For further information contact Karen Eustace on 0121 678 8420.

Mike Lloyd, a Higher Executive Officer in the Highways Agency

public & legal notices

Staffordshire County Council

STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ACT 2004

The Staffordshire County Council (South Staffordshire) (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading and Parking Places) Order No 1 (Amendment) No. 16/2014

1. Staffordshire County Council on 18 November 2014 made a Traffic Order under Sections 1, 2, 4, 32, 35, 45, 46, 47, 49, 53, 124 (1)(d) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and the Traffic Management Act 2004 which prevents you from parking your vehicle at any time on the following lengths of roads:

   Innovation Drive, Pendeford – from a point approximately 20 metres south of the centreline of its roundabout junction with Valiant Way in a northerly direction for a distance of approximately 40 metres.

   Valiant Way, Pendeford – from the centreline of its roundabout junction with Innovation Drive in an easterly direction for a distance of approximately 20 metres.

2. Exceptions permit waiting for the purposes of taking up and setting down passengers; loading or unloading goods; for vehicles displaying a Disabled Person's Badge; and where necessary in connection with the maintenance of roads and the supply of gas, electricity, telephones, sewerage services and water and in the service of the Environment Agency; for emergency service vehicles; for vehicles being used for the provision of a universal postal service by a universal service provider; for buses waiting at an authorised bus stop; for vehicles being used for floods defence works or land drainage works; and for so long as is reasonably necessary in connection with any wedding or funeral.

3. This Order amends the Staffordshire County Council (South Staffordshire) (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading and Parking Places) Order No 1.

4. This Order is called the Staffordshire County Council (South Staffordshire) (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading and Parking Places) Order No 1 (Amendment) No. 16/2014.

5. This Order amends the Plans which form part of the Staffordshire County Council (South Staffordshire) (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading and Parking Places) Order No 1 by the addition of a new Plan marked AT 266.

6. Full details of the Order, together with a map showing the roads involved, may be examined during normal office hours at the office of the Deputy Chief Executive & Director for Place; 1 Staffordshire Place, Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2LP and during normal opening hours at Codsall Library, South Staffordshire District Council Offices, Wolverhampton Road, Codsall and can be viewed at www.staffordshire.gov.uk/trafficregulationorders

7. Any person who desires to question the validity of the Order or any provision contained in the Order on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant sections of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 or on the grounds that any requirement of those sections or of Parts I, II, and III of Schedule 9 of the Act or any regulations made under the said Part III of Schedule 9 of the Act has not been complied with in relation to the Order, may, within six weeks of the date on which the Order was made, make an application for the purpose to the High Court.

8. **The Order will come into operation on 27 November 2014**

Date 20 November 2014

John Tradewell, Director of Law and Democracy, 2 Staffordshire Place, Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2LP.

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 (AS AMENDED) ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

LONG LANE, SPRINGHILL DIVERSION OF VEHICULAR TRAFFIC

NOTICE is hereby given that the Staffordshire County Council, on 18 November 2014, made an Order the effect of which is to prohibit any vehicle from proceeding in that length of Long Lane, Springhill between its junctions with B4210 Broad Lane and New Landywood Lane unless the vehicle is being used in connection with the works; or is being used for police, fire brigade or ambulance purposes. Pedestrian access will be maintained.

The preferred alternative route for traffic will be available via B4210 Broad Lane, A462 Warstone Road, Old Landywood Lane, New Landywood Lane and vice versa.

THE ORDER WILL COME INTO OPERATION ON 23 NOVEMBER 2014, AND THE SAID WORKS WILL COMMENCE ON OR AS NEAR AS PRACTICABLE TO THAT DATE AND TAKE PLACE BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 07:30 AND 17:00. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THE WORKS WILL BE COMPLETED ON THE SAME DAY.

The Order will remain in force for a period of 18 months or until the hot spot patching works, which it is proposed to carry out on or near the road, have been completed, whichever is the earlier.

Date: 20 November 2014

John Tradewell, Director of Democracy, Law and Transformation, No. 1 Staffordshire Place, Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2LP

Ref: S26674; Enquiries: Customer Contact Centre; Tel: 0300 111 8000 http://roadworks.org

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 (AS AMENDED) ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

BREWOOD ROAD, COVEN DIVERSION OF VEHICULAR TRAFFIC

NOTICE is hereby given that the Staffordshire County Council, on 18 November 2014, made an Order the effect of which is to prohibit any vehicle from proceeding in that length of Brewood Road, Coven between its junctions with Poplars Farm Way and Lawn Lane unless the vehicle is being used in connection with the works; or is being used for police, fire brigade or ambulance purposes. Vehicular access to frontages will be maintained via the diversion route. Pedestrian access will be maintained.

The preferred alternative route for traffic will be available via Brewood Road, A449 Stafford Road, School Lane, Brewood Road and vice versa.

THE ORDER WILL COME INTO OPERATION ON 24 NOVEMBER 2014, AND THE SAID WORKS WILL COMMENCE ON OR AS NEAR AS PRACTICABLE TO THAT DATE AND RUN BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 8:30AM AND 5:00PM. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THE WORKS WILL BE COMPLETED BY 25 NOVEMBER 2014.

The Order will remain in force for a period of 18 months or until the hotspot patching works, which it is proposed to carry out on or near the road, have been completed, whichever is the earlier.

Date: 20 November 2014

John Tradewell, Director of Democracy, Law and Transformation, No. 1 Staffordshire Place, Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2LP

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Taylor powers to Grand Slam glory

Darts

PHIL Taylor powered to Grand Slam of Darts glory in Wolverhampton for the sixth time at the weekend – but nine-dart hero Kim Huybrechts will be just as remembered this year, *writes Craig Birch*.

Taylor announced his return to form with the all-too-familiar sight of him lifting the trophy at the Civic Hall, as he has for all but two occasions since the Grand Slam started.

All of a sudden, that 17th world title doesn't seem like such an outside bet now.

He have to survive a few frights against Dave Chisnall, who battled back from 8-3 to level at 10-10 and then clawed it back to 15-13 before conceding defeat.

Taylor had earlier defeated King 16-9 in the semi-finals to within sight of glory, having dispatched almost every opponent with ease.

Huybrechts couldn't join Taylor in the final, but pushed Chisnall in the last four. He was edged out 16-15 in the deciding leg, awakening memories of last year's Taylor-Adrian Lewis clash.

And the Belgian had raised the biggest cheer of the whole tournament by treating Black Country darts fans to something they haven't been used to seeing.

Not since James Wade's perfect leg against Gary Anderson during the 2009 competition had the Civic witnessed a nine-darter and it came in far different circumstances.

While Wade couldn't even win that second round tie, Huybrechts was on the way to dumping reigning world champion and 2012 Grand Slam finalist Michael van Gerwen out of the event. 'The Hurricane' became the unsung star of the eight-day long event, which attracted record numbers in what has become a flagship event for Wolverhampton.

More than 13,000 people have passed through the Civic's doors since play started the previous weekend.

PDC owner Barry Hearn stated two weeks ago that we could reach a point with today's throwers that only a three-figure average will present a chance of winning.

Van Gerwen lost 16-10 in Friday night's quarter-final with an average of 103.87, slightly inferior to Huybrechts' 104.83. That's the standard we may come to expect.

Taylor recorded the highest average in Grand Slam history on just the second day, clocking up 114.65 in a 5-1 victory over Christian Kist.

The group stages had spelled the end for the likes of Lewis, Simon Whitlock and 2010 Grand Slam champion Scott Waites.

The man victorious at the Civic in 2012, Raymond van Barneveld, was stunned 10-7 by Keegan Brown in the second round, where James Wade and Peter Wright also exited.

Chisnall eventually broke Brown's resolve 16-14 after another close-run affair comes the quarters while another young impressionist Michael Smith, was hammered 16-3 by Taylor.

BDO world champion Stephen Bunting's debut year in the PDC goes from strength to strength. Only King could halt his charge, 16-9 in the last eight.

So that was the 2014 Grand Slam. On and off the oche, it's just getting better and better.

Sawyer keeps his team in contest

Walsall 1 Sheff Utd 0

WALSALL are just three games from history with the 1-0 win over Sheffield United at the Banks's, courtesy of a rare headed goal from Romaine Sawyers, means the Saddlers are just two rounds away from a first-ever Wembley appearance.

It might only be the Johnstone's Paint Trophy, a competition which clearly fails to capture the imagination of supporters judging by the gate.

But should Dean Smith's men successfully negotiate next month's Area semi-final and a two legged Area final, nobody will be complaining.

Victory extended the current unbeaten run to four games and progress in this competition gives further credence to the feeling this is a season finally getting off the ground.

The only concern for Smith will be the hamstring strain which forced top scorer Tom Bradshaw off at half-time.

Ten minutes into the half, the Saddlers were ahead with a goal which arrived right after their best move of the match.

From a corner, Sawyers dashed to the near post to glance Forde's delivery home. With their noses in front, the hosts set about trying to find a second .

Ricketts never thought of going

CAPTAIN Sam Ricketts says he never considered moving during his Wolves exile – as boss Kenny Jackett hinted he was back for good.

Ricketts's performance was one of the few highlights of Saturday's 5-0 demolition by Derby as he was recalled for only his second League start of the season. The 33-year-old was preferred at left-back as Tommy Rowe stood down and Scott Golbourne was injured.

Ricketts has had to wait for his chance again but saw his hard work and patience pay off.

"This is football and I'm wise enough to know it's a long season and funny things happen," said Ricketts, who is one of two Wolves players, with Lee Evans, in the Wales squad for Sunday's Euro 2016 qualifier in Belgium.

"Like any player I want to play and I'm just trying to make it hard for the manager by performing well in training and in games when I get chances.

"You just keep going, keep yourself fit and if you show a good attitude, hopefully it will come.

"As club captain I have a responsibility to myself and to my team-mates.

"We're all going one way and looking to improve."

Three goals but not much in excitement

England 3 Slovenia 1

Football

SATURDAY at Wembley was a total non-event.

For the first time in recent memory, England's friendlies are more interesting than their qualifiers.

Every occasion at Wembley Stadium, especially those ones that attracts a crowd of more than 80,000 people, feels like an event.

But Saturday's low-key Euro 2016 qualifier against the minnows from Eastern Europe tested the theory like never before.

England were uninspiring but more than good enough to win, the loyal but subdued spectators failed to get excited, Wayne Rooney picked up his 100th cap, Danny Welbeck took another step forward in his international career and a couple of young full-backs seized their opportunity.

And nobody seemed remotely engaged by any of it.

The manager took the chance to blood young Southampton defender Nathaniel Clyne and was rewarded with a hugely encouraging debut.

And, having been forced into starting with Arsenal's Kieran Gibbs, Hodgson watched the young Arsenal left-back send out a message to Leighton Baines and Luke Shaw.

Yet Hodgson missed the chance to blood in-form Albion star Saido Berahino – whose exploits have captured the imagination of more than just Baggies fans if the cheers which greeted his name were any guide – and give exciting Everton youngster Ross Barkley another opportunity.

And only when he was pushed into a tactical change in the second half did his side find any semblance of conviction and tempo, eventually winning the game thanks to Rooney's penalty and Welbeck's brace after they were jolted into life by Jordan Henderson's hapless own-goal.

The diamond system designed to get the best from Rooney and Raheem Sterling stifles the rest of the side and it took a switch in the wake of Slovenia's opener, with Sterling and Welbeck providing the previously non-existent width either side of Rooney, to turn the tide.

The first half had been turgid, England dominating possession yet lacking a spark, but three goals in 10 second-half minutes finally gave the fixture a jump-start. It was the visitors who took the lead as Henderson glanced a free-kick over keeper Joe Hart and into England's net on 57 minutes.

A minute later Rooney was fouled in the box and stepped up to blast home the ensuing penalty.

If that goal was a touch fortunate, the next was sublime as, on 72, Welbeck received Gibbs' pass, played a brilliant one-two with Sterling and finished with composure. It was a moment of class and excitement at odds with the general tone of a game.

Danny Welbeck celebrates scoring England's second goal with Wayne Rooney and Kieran Gibbs

Depleted Wulfs fight for the win

Dunkirk 1 AFC Wulfs 2

A resilient performance with 10 men saw AFC Wulfrunians record an impressive victory over struggling Dunkirk.

Dave Asbury was given a red card after 38 minutes, but Wulfs held on to claim three Midland League Premier Division points.

The hosts had gone ahead after just three minutes; Liam Garner arrived in the penalty box to meet Dexter Atkinson's low cross and he placed it firmly past Danny Tipton.

Wulfs were awarded a penalty five minutes later-and Jake Sedgemore sent Jordan Fell the wrong way from the spot.

Andy Thompson put the visitors ahead shortly after. Gregg played a great ball to him and he turned the defender before smashing his effort in off the bar.

Wulfrunians defended extremely well, with Dunkirk only having a clear chance in the final minute.

Pershore hands out first defeat

Pershore 4
Old Wulfrunians 2

OLD Wulfs suffered their first defeat of the season against a determined Pershore.

The speedy attack of the Worcestershire side caused problems from the start and Pershore soon took the lead with an angled shot.

Darryl Ablard turned the tide, regaining control in the middle of the park, and Dave Ward struck a penalty corner to level things at half time. Defensive errors cost Wulfs in the second period, keeper Pearson beaten in a one-on-one. Old Wulfs wasted a series of opportunities thanks to a combination of poor finishing and good saves from the goalie. Dave Ward then had the chance to level but missed a penalty stroke before making amends with another penalty corner goal to level again at 2-2. But Pershore won and converted their own penalty stroke before sealing the win.

Cain staying on at Banks's

WALSALL were set to extend midfielder Michael Cain's loan stay from Leicester City.

A deal to keep the 19-year-old at the Banks's has been agreed and barring any late paperwork issues is all set to be rubber stamped in time for him to feature against Shrewsbury Town in the FA Cup.

The Saddlers have lost just one of the six games in which Cain has played since joining on a one month loan deal last month and manager Dean Smith has been hugely impressed with his performances.

Leicester have agreed to-extending the loan.

Saddlers need to get Bradshaw back in play

Walsall 0 Peterborough 0

FOR all Walsall's progress one big, unwanted statistic remains – they still haven't won a league game without Tom Bradshaw.

Saturday's draw with Peterborough means they have now taken just two points from a possible 18 from games in which their top scorer has missed.

And with the 22-year-old's ongoing hamstring problems showing no signs of leaving for good, it's a real cause for concern. Manager Dean Smith felt Bradshaw may not have made much of a difference against the Posh.

We'll never know. But it is reasonable to surmise he would have done, in a match where the Saddlers had everything but the finish.

And while it might seem a little unfair to focus on their record without Bradshaw, when they are five games unbeaten and getting so much else right at the moment, it is unavoidable. The statistics speak for themselves.

The Saddlers have scored just 14 goals in 17 league games, with Bradshaw having contributed almost half. More worryingly, Romaine Sawyers' goal in last Wednesday's Johnstone's Paint Trophy win over Sheffield United was the only time another Saddlers player, other than Bradshaw, has found the net in the last seven games across all competitions.

The general consensus around the dressing room is that it will only be a matter of time before the rest start of the strike-force start firing. It needs to happen soon, or this may still be a season spent in the wrong half of the table. On Saturday it was the turn of Mathieu Manset to be tested in a first league start for almost two months.

The big French striker didn't exactly flunk the exam, yet neither did he spectacularly pass it either.

There were moments, particularly in the first half, when his play looked promising and he got into several good positions. Yet all too often he let himself down with the execution, sending one all too memorable cross in particular clattering into the old scoreboard.

The best chances fell to Sawyers, who had an off day in front of goal. In the first half, he completely missed a Jordan Cook cross, where any notable touch would likely have beaten visiting keeper Ben Alnwick.

After half-time, he then shot wide left-footed from 12 yards out with just Alnwick to beat before seeing a late low drive saved.

The Saddlers' inability to make their dominance pay meant they ended with a feeling of frustration but, away from the forward line, there was plenty of good news.

Not least in Michael Cain, who responded to the news his loan spell from Leicester City is almost certain to be extended with his best performance in a Saddlers shirt. At times in the opening half, the 19-year-old seemed to be everywhere, whether it be winning challenges or setting up attacks with his crisp passing.

Bringing a player so young, who had only one senior start to his name, into what was a struggling Saddlers side last month was a gamble but one which has paid off for Smith.

Saido 'is due for big things'

ALBION hero Darren Moore believes international recognition is just the "tip of the iceberg" for Saido Berahino.

The 21-year-old striker could become the first outfield Baggies player to play for England in 30 years when Roy Hodgson's side take on Scotland .

Moore, who is now back at Albion coaching the club's pro development phase players, believes Berahino has set an example for others to follow and believes the young striker will only get better.

"The beautiful thing about him is he is still a work in progress."

La Parra 'must fight' for his place

FLYING Dutchman Rajiv Van La Parra has been told he must "battle and scrap" to win his Wolves place back – as Kenny Jackett considered a recall for Jack Price.

The 23-year-old hasn't started the last five games since a disappointing performance in the 3-3 draw at Millwall on October 18.

But with head coach Jackett looking for options as the winter approaches, the former Heerenveen flier has been assured there is a place for his pace and power.

"He has to realise we need him to scrap and battle to get himself in the game. He has the attributes to do that, making that adjustment to the English game," said the boss.

"We're going to need his pace and I'll be looking for him to go again in our first team.

"Rajiv made a good start but maybe battling for the ball and being competitive is a new side to the game for him.

"He has a really good character and I think he'll learn from it and come through it. That's what I'm looking for."

Meanwhile, Jackett insists that Price can handle the physical side of the Championship. The 21-year-old is fit again.

Old Hawthorns pub to become Baggies fan zone

Football

AN Albion fans' spokesman has welcomed plans for a new 'fan zone' that will be launched on the site of a derelict pub right next to The Hawthorns next season.

Official supporters club chairman John Homer believes the scheme, which is planned for the historic Hawthorns pub, will help deal with the 'dearth' of facilities for fans on match days and will be somewhere for the Baggies fans to gather.

The Baggies this week revealed plans for a new match-day 'fan zone' in and around the Grade II listed building with the club hoping to demolish the east and west wings of the pub early next year to make way for the initiative for the supporters of the Premier League club.

The proposals for the site, on the junction of Halfords Lane and Birmingham Road, include live music, children's activities, food, drink and merchandise stands and a big screen.

Homer said: "It is an admirable idea.

"There is a dearth of facilities for fans close to the ground and hopefully this idea will help do something about it.

"Fans struggle for things to do before the games so if this can help create some more atmosphere near the ground then I am all in favour of it.

"If it encourages more young fans to come along with their parents because there is something they can do before the game, it can only be a good thing," added the chairman.

"If the game isn't as good as they'd hoped, they will still have had a fun day out. It should help to improve the experience for the fans."

The proposal will run alongside a plan, already approved by Sandwell Council, for a drive-through coffee shop in the listed section of the building, which dates back to the 1840s and will remain after the proposed demolition of the 'wings' which were added later.

Parts of the building and the land around it, including the current car park, will house the new fan zone.

● England full-back Luke Shaw has hailed Albion striker Saido Berahino as an "unbelievable talent". Berahino looked likely to make his England debut in Glasgow alongside his Under-21s team-mate.

And the Manchester United defender said: "He's an unbelievable talent. "

Libra get balance right to top table

LIBRA Lea got the balance right in Division 1 of the Wolverhampton City Netball league toppling Whitmore X which sees them above Chasetown A and Sam 2.

Sam 2 pulled out all the stops to hold Chasetown A to a draw 23 goals apiece. Teammates Sam 3 just managing to steal a win over Whitmore Y 21-15.

The Dolls came out to play against Lucas in Division 2, Dolls Goal Shooter Natalie Whittle in fine shooting form netting 34 goals to Lucas' 10.

Sam 4 in Division 3 proved too strong for Wordsley Storks winning 37-24.

Division 1: Whitmore Y 15 (1) Sam 3 21 (5); Sam 2 23 (3) Chasetown A 23 (3); Libra Lea White 30 (5) Whitmore X 19 (1); Sapphets 17 (5) Fusion 10 (1).

Division 2: Eurostars 19 (1) Ladybirds 28 (5); Whitmore T 19 (2) Phoenix 22 (5); Dolls 1 34 (5) Lucas 10 (1); Crescent 23 (5) Phoenix Hornets 15 (1).

Division 3: Whitmore A 23 (5) Roldec 11 (0); Whitmore Z 17 (5) Cresta 15 (2); Wordsley Storks 24 (2) Sam 4 37 (5).

Division 4: Thundercats 9 (0) Blaze 30 (5); Amec Ladies 26 (5) Breezers 18 (1); Whitmore J 23 (1) Sedgley Sirens 30 (5).

Women get a much needed win in Cup

Wolves 2 Leamington Lions Ladies 0

WOLVES moved into the next round of the Birmingham County Cup with a comfortable win over Leamington.

Wolves dominated the game throughout, but struggled to put away the plentiful chances that they created which could have changed the final score of the match up.

Dani Selmes headed over from a Jen Anslow cross, before seeing another effort well saved by the goalkeeper's feet to keep the home team off the scoreboard.

Jen Kikomeko dragged an effort wide from the edge of the box and Leila Hopkins saw her effort saved as Wolves enjoyed the majority of the play in a lively first half at Keys Park but all the efforts reaped little reward for the squad.

The second half saw Wolves continue to apply the pressure, keeping the ball in the Leamington half, but unable to capitalise, as Selmes chipped an effort over when through on goal and Laura McQuilkin was denied from close range after connecting with a Selmes cross.

With 20 minutes left in the game Wolves upped their tempo, stretching their opponents with quick passing and surging wing-play, with McQuilkin and Jen Anslow causing the Leamington defence all sorts of problems but still nothing showing on the sheet.

The pressure finally told on the Leamington defence when Selmes was brought down in the area for a penalty with just 15 minutes left on the clock.

Football

Selmes got up to calmly dispatch the spot kick to ease the nerves that were beginning to build and this proved the turning point as Wolves consolidated their lead.

Wolves put the game beyond doubt three minutes later when McQuilkin played in Kikomeko, whose delightful turn saw her lose her marker before firing past the goalkeeper to give her side a two goal lead which they held on to until the final whistle.

Wolves will be delighted to have got a much needed win under their belts after a pretty poor run of defeats and only one draw in the league where they have yet to win a game.

They will now be looking to take the success of this performance into this week's league game where they are at home to Huddersfield and the game kicks off at 2pm.

Wolves: McElroy, Hakeman, Woodcock, Salter, Anslow, Luke, Hopkins (Perks), McQuilkin, Salisman (North), Kikomeko (Barbaccia), Selmes. Unused Sub: Widdal.

Delight as Heathens live to ride into 2015

New signing Michael Neale, centre, with promoter Gary Patchett and Will Pottinger

CRADLEY fans raised the roof at the Copthorne Hotel in Brierley Hill after news broke of the club's survival for 2015.

Almost 300 riders, officials and supporters packed the Earls Suite to hear the news that the reigning National League champions will be back to defend their title with home meetings at Birmingham's Perry Barr Stadium.

And in a further boost for the sport it was confirmed the Brummies will also return to the track – also in the National League – after their mid-season collapse this year through financial troubles.

Heathens lost the use of Monmore Green which is only available for Elite League Wolves next year and there have been serious concerns over possible closure of the former Dudley Wood outfit.

But club co-boss Gary Patchett said: "It's been hard, it's been tough, but we have agreed an arrangement with Birmingham to share Perry Barr next year.

"We have done this purely because of the supporters. We have so far been unsuccessful in finding a piece of land to call our own in the Dudley or Sandwell . "I would like to thank Tony Mole at Birmingham and hope the Brummies fans turn out to support their side as well."

Etheridge is to fight a decider

WALSALL'S Liam Etheridge has granted Mat Windle a rematch for the UniBox Central England flyweight title to take place on home turf next month, writes Craig Birch.

Etheridge avenged his defeat to Windle in the England Elite national competition earlier this year when he snatched the belt nine days ago.

But the 20-year-old, who represents Pleck Boxing Club, feels they need to go at it again to truly decide who is the better fighter at 52kg.

They are set for battle at the Banks's Stadium on Thursday December 11 with Etheridge hoping to defend his crown twice. He said: "It's 1-1 between me and Mat now."

Darlaston's seven hits top spot

Red Star Alma 0
Darlaston Town 7

DARLASTON Town went top of West Midlands Division Two with a magnificent 7-0 win against landlords Red Star Alma.

John Reeves grabbed a hat-trick and a strike by Ashley Walker gave Darlo a 4-0 half-time lead.

Skipper Ryan McAllister, top scorer Mark Swann and Sam Melia, with his first goal for the club, completed the rout in the second half, with Alma's Michael Peach sent off.

A superb four man passing move saw Lucas Hough set up McAllister to volley home a vicious 25 yard shot.

Red Star were reduced to 10 in the 75th minute when Michael Peach was sent off.

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Wolves blow as Dicko doubtful for match

Football

NOUHA DICKO dealt Wolves a fresh injury blow as he faces missing the Nottingham Forest game on Saturday.

The four-goal striker missed Mali's 2-0 defeat against Malawi last weekend after suffering tight hamstrings again in training when he was passed fit by Wolves before he travelled to join up with the squad a week ago.

Dicko faced a 10-hour flight from Namibia before returning home yesterday to be assessed by Wolves.

Team-mate Bakary Sako, who played in the Malawi game, is still with the squad preparing for tomorrow's final African Nations Cup qualifier against group winners Algeria which Mali need to win to be sure of making the finals in Equatorial Guinean.

"Dicko felt his hamstring in training and has come back, so we shall see," said head coach Kenny Jackett.

"As for this Saturday, I think he's extremely doubtful.

"He flew back into the country yesterday and he's doubtful for Saturday, but you never know." Dicko missed the three games before the international break with the same problem and Jackett admits the problem has resurfaced.

"We'll see – the good thing is there's no damage but it's recurring so it does seem as if there's an underlying problem," he said. "And it would be a risk. Hopefully we don't need him (on Saturday)."

"He was sensible enough to not involve himself on Saturday and get a flight back.

"It doesn't seem to be too bad. It's only some tightness but it shows how close it was last week and how unpredictable hamstring injuries can be. Hopefully we can get to the bottom of it and make sure he has no more problems. He's picked this up after being approved by ourselves and myself to go (with Mali).

"Maybe he had that in his mind, but as of last Friday and Saturday he was fine. He missed the last series of internationals with a heel problem, probably during that two-week period that cleared up and he trained and it was OK."

Meanwhile Forgotten Wolves winger Razak Boukari is finally set to return to full training in two weeks.

Evans may have to face surgery

LEE EVANS may have to undergo surgery in what could be another injury blow to Wolves.

The 20-year-old midfielder has suffered a broken scaphoid and has been playing with a cast for several weeks.

Evans has been experiencing some discomfort after damaging the bone between the hand and forearm on the thumb side of the wrist.

Beckham suffered the same injury when as England captain he fell heavily during a 2-1 victory over South Africa in May 2003.

Evans had to wait again for his Wales debut after being a non-playing member of Chris Coleman's squad that played a Euro 2016 qualifier away to Belgium last night.

"Lee Evans has a hand injury he's been playing with, with the aid of a small splint," said head coach Kenny Jackett.

"It will either clear up in the next couple of weeks or he'll need to have it operated on.

"It will only be a minor operation – it won't keep him out long."

Wolves are currently without Dave Edwards and Scott Golbourne, although there is an outside chance both may be fit for Saturday.

Khalsa four-ce lead wider

Sporting Khalsa 4
W-ton SC 0

KHALSA stretched their lead at the top of the West Midlands Regional League with a comprehensive win.

Khalsa dominated throughout and but for some wayward finishing and an inspired performance by visiting goalkeeper Sam Benton, the scoreline would have looked even more one-sided.

The deadlock was broken on 33 minutes when Mike Perksrocketed home a 25 yard drive.

The stubborn resistance of the visitors finally crumbled on 73 minutes when Craig Bannister was felled in the penalty area and up stepped Tim Jackson to lash home the spot kick.

Another great save by Benton on 84 minutes denied NisbettBut a brace by Nicky Campbell in the closing stages to end things.

DANNY IS READY TO FACE FOREST

WOLVES boss Kenny Jackett says Danny Graham is ready to hit the ground running as he claimed the move could become longer term.

The 29-year-old on-loan Sunderland striker joined his new team-mates for the first time in training this week and is preparing for a debut against Nottingham Forest on Saturday.

Football

Graham, who has only played once this season, replaces Yannick Sagbo, who was sent back to Hull because he wasn't match-fit.

But Jackett believes the former Watford and Swansea frontman is ready to play, with Nouha Dicko back from international duty early with a recurrence of his tight hamstrings.

"He's ready to play and is very keen to play and that showed in his 'mini' medical," said the boss.

Confident

"I'm very confident – he's done all the fitness tests to make sure he could play beforehand because without a games record this season that transition to first-team football can be difficult.

"His fitness was very good. He's played Under-21 football and behind-closed-doors games.

"Our physios and fitness people were very confident to take him.

"Us giving him this opportunity I think will kick-start his career."

Jackett won't change formation to play two out-and-out strikers.

"Not necessarily, no," he said. "With us not looking the same team when Dicko hasn't played, we did need an established option. If they had to play together they could. Danny's a clever player who's good with his back to goal.

"He has a goalscoring record at this level and at Swansea he was a big threat playing in a similar system to ours.

"If you get the ball into the box and can get crosses in regularly I have every confidence he can score."

"He's the type of established centre-forward, the number nine, we need."

Graham earns around £40,000-a-week at Sunderland and Jackett admitted: "We're paying a percentage of his wages. There is no loan fee."

Former Wolves and Villa assistant boss John Ward worked with Kenny Jackett's new loan signing when he was Carlisle manager.

"He's a good hold-up player – he brings people into play and can make the most of good deliveries into the penalty box," said Ward, who is seeking a coaching job after leaving the Bristol Rovers hot-seat in March.

"He hasn't got real pace, but he's got guile.

Wolves signing Danny Graham, on loan from Sunderland, settling in at Molineux. *Picture: AMA*

Crowd control changes

THIS Saturday Stourbridge FC host FC United of Manchester at the War Memorial Athletic Ground and the club are anticipating a large crowd.

As a result, special arrangements will be in place for the fixture.

All home supporters will be required to enter the ground via the 'bottom drive' turnstiles, opposite the church.

The away team have been allocated all the Shed End of the ground around to a cordoned off point and FC United supporters only will be allowed to enter the ground via the Memorial Arch main entrance, opposite the closed Royal Oak pub.

They will have use of the cricket pavilion during the afternoon with the Glassboys Bar open to home fans only.

Supporters are requested to park away from the ground or use public transport and be respectful of local residents when parking. Parking is available in Old Wharf Road, Mill Race Lane or the DMBC car park in Birmingham Street. Supporters are asked to come early to avoid congestion.

French defeat for Under-21s

ENGLAND Under-21s threw away a 2-0 lead as their 11-match winning streak was ended by France in a friendly in Brest.

An early brace from Harry Kane was not enough to secure victory. Wolves duo Dominic Iorfa and Kortney Hause figured for England Under-20s as they beat Portugal on penalties.

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